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Volume 71, Issue 7 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com Thursday, August 14, 2025

Nearly one mile of Kalamazoo River revitalized locally

Once restricted with deteriorating infrastructure, a stretch of the Kalamazoo River in Plainwell has returned to a thriving, free-flowing ecosystem.

On Thursday, Aug. 7, federal, state and local partners joined community members near the riverbank just northwest of where M-89 crosses U.S. 131 to mark the occasion.

The Plainwell Dam Removal and River Restoration Project, a $7 million multi-agency initiative, removed aging infrastructure and revitalized nearly a mile of river and surrounding habitat.

The effort was meant to enhance safety, improve fish and wildlife habitat and provide recreational and economic opportunities for the surrounding community.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Scott Bowen said the DNR manages more than 200 dams across the state, and outcomes like this are exactly what the agency strives for with removal/replacement projects.

"Dams are a big challenge for the state of Michigan and for the DNR, especially when many dams weren't designed for their current uses or to current construction standards," Bowen said.

"The thorough partnership approach to the Plainwell Dam Removal and River Restoration Project and the commitment from all to protect public safety, conserve natural resources and boost outdoor recreation opportunities is a model I hope we can replicate."

Bowen also noted that the project shows what is possible with proper investment, acknowledging the $15 million Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has proposed in her budget for the next fiscal year to help address some of the state's high-priority dams.

"We appreciate that support from the governor and from legislators as we continue the urgent work of assessing the condition and sustainability of these dams," Bowen said.

The Plainwell Dam project was not a quick fix and required multiple partnerships.

Jennifer Tewkesbury, Area of Concern Coordinator with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, said the Kalamazoo River was designated as an Area of Concern in 1987 due to the contamination by PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) as a byproduct of the operation of multiple paper mills and paper recycling industries along the river.

"While these industries provided good jobs and benefits to the local economy, that prosperity came at a cost to the natural resource," she said. "Further, the multiple dam structures that provided power for these facilities became physical barriers to a naturally functioning river system.

"EGLE would like to recognize our sister agency, the Michigan DNR, for taking the lead role on this project, as well as the EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office for their support of the Kalamazoo River Area of Concern and the funding provided through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative."

With the dam and spillway removed and the area restored, this stretch of the Kalamazoo River in Plainwell now supports native vegetation, restored wetlands and improved floodplain function. (Photo provided)

Plainwell Kayak Company owner Lois Heuchert, a member of the project's community advisory group, said she's been impressed by how effectively local, state and federal government and the trustees have worked together.

"With every stretch of river restoration that gets completed, those areas become another part of a gorgeous trip through there," she said. "The work hasn't been just about the pollutants being taken out, it's about making sure the entire area is enhanced. Every time they've taken on a project, they leave it so much better than you could have imagined."

With this stage of river restoration complete, Heuchert looks forward to sharing the experience with more paddlers on the Kalamazoo.

"To be able to run a business like this, that brings families together, that has kids putting away their phones for a few hours," she said. "People are almost transformed by the end of their floats.

"They enjoy nature, they enjoy relaxing. Providing that kind of service, getting people out into all that beauty, that's what makes our job fun."

An ecological transformation, the project:

* Restored 0.8 miles of river channel.
* Stabilized more than a mile of riverbank.
* Reestablished 15 acres of native riparian habitat.
* Expanded the floodplain by 6 acres and dramatically increased the river's capacity to store floodwaters, reducing downstream flood risk.
* Strategically placed more than 325 "rootwads" – large tree trunks with attached roots – to protect banks and provide vital fish and wildlife habitat.

Already, signs of ecological recovery are emerging, with increased sightings of smallmouth bass, turtles, osprey and other native species.

Mark Mills, regional supervisor in the DNR's Wildlife Division, said the project was driven by agencies coming together with a shared purpose.

"We weren't just removing a dam, we were reimagining how this stretch of river could function ecologically and socially," he said. "The result is a safer, healthier and more accessible river for the people and wildlife of southwest Michigan."

This restoration is the result of a unique collaboration among local, state and federal agencies, but united by a single goal of restoring the Kalamazoo River.

In addition to the DNR and EGLE, project partners include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Great Lakes National Program Office; the U.S. EPA Superfund program and potentially responsible parties; the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and the Kalamazoo River Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program.

Funding was provided through a combination of sources:

* $1.9 million – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, administered by the USEPA.
* $2 million – Kalamazoo River Natural Resource Damage Trustees.
* $2.6 million (including a $600,000 Dam Management Grant) – Michigan DNR.
* $600,000 – USEPA Superfund Site Responsible Parties.

"The completion of the Plainwell Dam restoration marks a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to the Great Lakes," said EPA Regional Administrator and Great Lakes National Program

■ see **Dam**, Page A12

Otsego prepares for 10th year of Gus Macker tourney

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Otsego Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament has reached double digits.

That's right. The Otsego Macker is turning 10 years old this year, as the first tournament was held in 2015.

No event took place in 2020 due to COVID, meaning this is the 10th annual Macker for Otsego.

This year's tournament is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 23, and Sunday, Aug. 24.

In the past decade, the Otsego Macker has continued to grow in popularity. In fact, according to organizers, the Otsego-hosted tournament has been the second or third largest Gus Macker Tournament in the nation.

"Clearly the Gus Macker Tournament has become quite a highlight in our community," Together Otsego Prospers (TOP)—the organization that runs the Otsego Macker—said in a statement.

The reason for the event's continued growth and popularity, organizers say, can be traced back to the six primary objectives that have guided development of the Macker across the nation. Those objectives are that the event is meant to be:

* A wholesome, family-oriented event
* A tournament designed by players for players
* A value to sponsors
* An outstanding fundraising event for the local community
* A major media sporting event
* Entertainment for the spectators

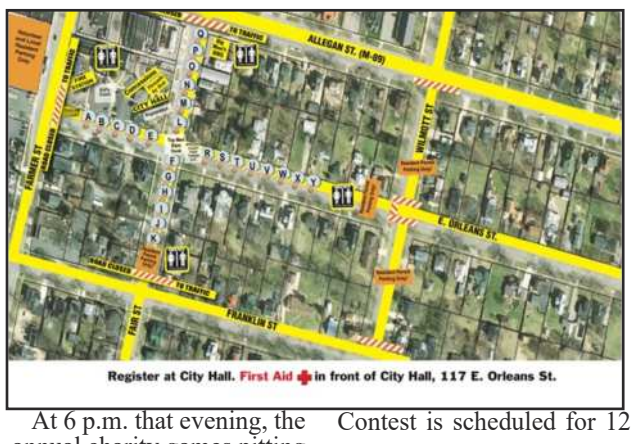
During the annual Gus Macker tournament, the streets of Otsego turn into basketball courts with thousands of people coming to town. (Photo provided)

"The Gus Macker Tournament not only benefits businesses in our community, but it benefits our schools, too," TOP said. "We share the profits with the volunteer groups from our local schools and organizations."

As for TOP's portion of the profits, a portion of the proceeds are reinvested back into such economic development efforts as festivals, other events and grant opportunities for local businesses.

As for the tournament itself, one change for this year is the addition of an 8-and-under division.

Packet pickup and registration will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 22, at City Hall. Courts will be open to practice and for having fun.



At 6 p.m. that evening, the annual charity games pitting Otsego Public Schools employees, City of Otsego employees and others against each other will take place. Money raised will be donated to the Wishbone Pet Rescue Alliance.

Registration/packet pickup will also be available from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23, with Opening Ceremonies taking place at 8 a.m. Games begin at 8:30 a.m. and are slated to wrap up for the day at approximately 6 p.m.

The 3-point Competition will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the finals at 4:30 p.m., while the Slam Dunk Contest is scheduled for 12 p.m.

Prizes for the dunk contest are $500 for first place, $200 for second place and $100 for third place.

Games pick up again at 8 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 24, with the final contests slated to conclude by 6 p.m. The Free Throw Competition will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

As has been the case throughout the Macker's run in Otsego, volunteers will be its lifeblood this year.

"We could not do what we do without the many volunteers that pour in their time and effort," organizers said.

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All township proposals pass in Aug. 5 election

By Gari Voss

The Elections on August 5, 2025, held a small voter turnout while deciding on issues that are important to the municipalities. The Allegan County Board of Canvassers completed their review on Monday, August 11, 2025, and sent the results on to Lansing.

Fennville Public Schools received approval of their Bond to make improvements to all buildings in the district. Allegan County voters approved the bond proposal for the Holland City School District.

Township proposals passed for roads, drains, and fire protection depending upon the municipality.

Laketown Township (Turnout: 23%)

Road, Non-Motorized Paths, and Drain Renewal Proposition YES 973 NO 281

Fire Department Millage Proposition YES 928 NO 332

Lee Township (Turnout: 7.8%)

Road Construction, Upgrades, Maintenance and Improvements Renewal YES 106 no 64

Manlius Township (Turnout: 14.13%)

Existing Road Renewal Proposal YES 267 NO 122

Fire Protection Renewal Proposal YES 305 NO 85

Existing Road Resurfacing Renewal Proposal YES 270 NO 120

Fennville Public Schools (Turnout in district: 15.13%)

School Bond Proposal YES 660 NO 490

City of Holland School District (Turnout Allegan County voters = 18.55%)

School Bond Proposal YES 867 NO 524

South Haven (Turnout: 35%)

Mayor: Annie Brown = 477; Mary Hosley = 355; Joshua Lemmer = 351

Council Member Ward 1, Precinct 1: Eddie Polk = 227; Lisa Krupiarz = 158; Samantha Kellum = 15

Council Member Ward 2, Precinct 1: Thomas Capps = 174; Todd Heinrich = 137; Kent Brindley = 36

Digital Empowerment Survey needs countywide input - update

By Gari Voss

Thank you to those of you who read the article about the Allegan County Digital Empowerment Survey and then went online to complete the survey. Apologies that the tinyurl address did not work properly.

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and can be located at:

https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8357902/Digital-Empowerment-2025.

This is a wonderful opportunity to inform the county team of needs and wants, so they can prepare the next best steps for the residents in Allegan County. Please, encourage everyone, from those very proficient with computers and internet to those who tremble when turning on a computer, to complete the questionnaire.

Motorcyclist with serious injuries after hit by car in Salem Twp.

The Allegan County Sheriff's Office reported a serious crash involving a motorcycle and a sedan, resulting in injuries.

Allegan County Central Dispatch received notification from Ottawa County Central Dispatch at 4:36 p.m. Aug. 9 of a serious injury crash in the area of 26th Street and Ottogan Street in Salem Township.

According to preliminary investigation, a northbound sedan failed to yield the right of way at the intersection of 26th Street and Ottogan Street, striking an eastbound Harley-Davidson motorcycle. The two occupants of the sedan were uninjured, police said.

The motorcycle rider was transported to Corewell Health Hospital with serious injuries. Police said that neither alcohol nor speed appears to be factor in the crash.

The names of the involved parties are being withheld while the case remains under investigation.

Vehicles crash on M-60, woman transported to hospital

A two-vehicle crash on Friday, Aug. 8, sent a woman to the hospital, according to the Cass County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies responded to the crash at approximately 8:45 p.m. east of the intersection of M-60 and Woodlake Road in Newberg Township.

The investigation showed that Nora Gill, 44, of Chicago, IL, was driving eastbound on M-60. Logan King, 19, of Plainwell, Mich., was driving westbound on M-60 when he crashed into Gill's vehicle while turning into the eastbound lane.

King failed to yield to oncoming traffic. Gill was then transported by Newberg Township EMS to Three Rivers Hospital for injuries sustained in the crash.

Police said drugs and alcohol are not believed to be factors, but the crash remains under investigation.

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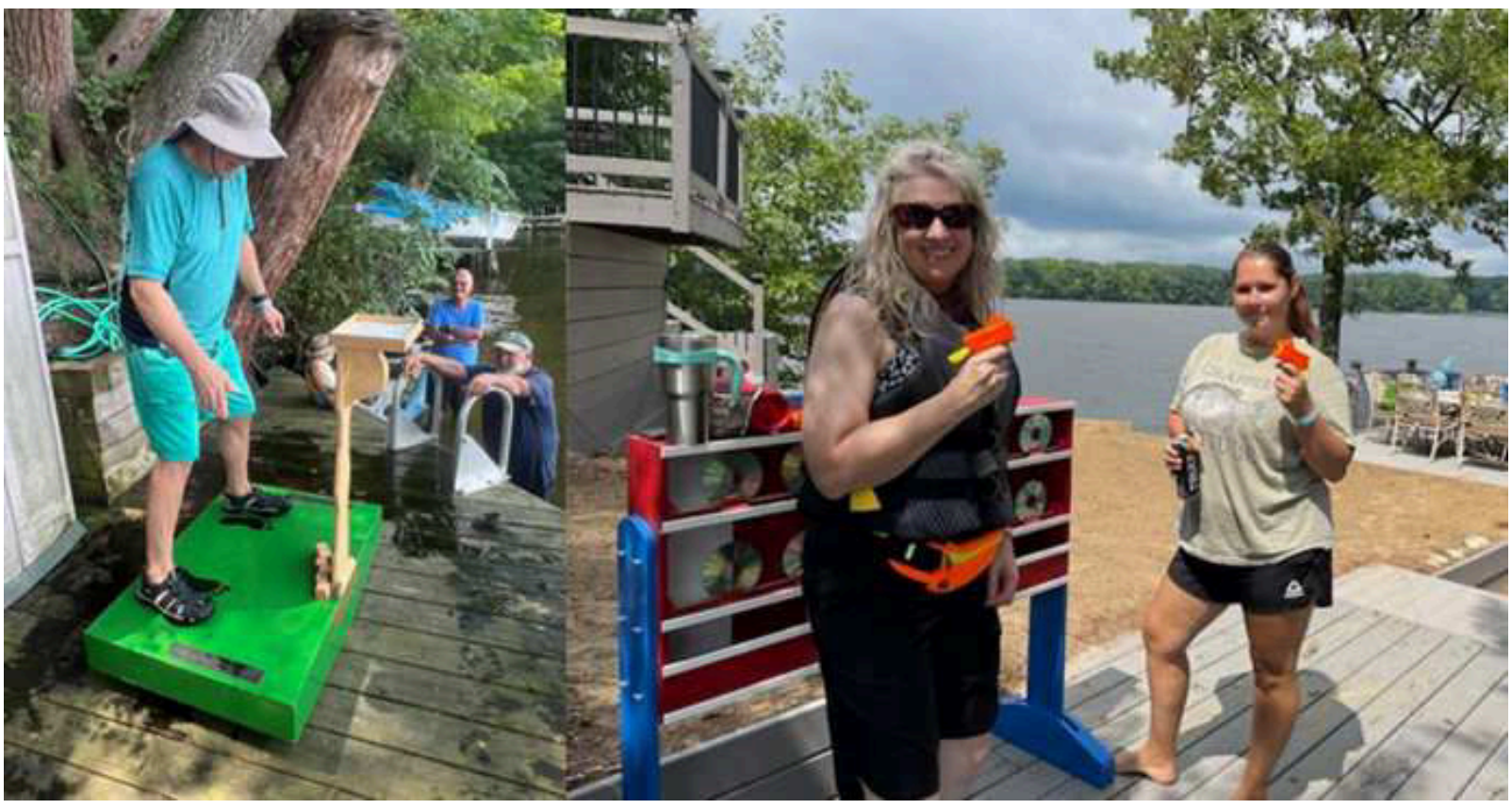
Lake Allegan kayak run highlights weekend events

By Gari Voss

With the thermometer recording temperatures into the 90s, outdoor activity would seem the last thing someone might want to do on a Friday or Saturday, but that was not true along the Allegan Riverfront and the shores of Lake Allegan.



Games like Wiebelspel = wiggle game, a balance game that required balancing then bending and stacking blocks, and Disco Drop made from old CDs that were knocked over using a Nerf gun tested kayakers' dexterity on dry land during the Lake Allegan Kayad Run on Saturday, August 9, 2025. Tickets were won that were used during the prize drawing at the end of the After Party.

Rollin' on the River

Friday evening, August 8, 2025, brought Zion Lion and their followers to the Allegan Riverfront. Considered West Michigan's premier reggae band, the group puts a wonderful twist to their music. Described as the right mix of reggae, African zouk, mucosa, zoukous and Afro-Latin influenced music, the ensemble made the crowd forget about the weather and focus on the music and camaraderie for two solid hours.

Lake Allegan Kayak Run

On Saturday, the focus began at Lake Allegan when kayaks of all shapes, sizes and colors navigated by kayakers of all ages could be seen bucking the wind across Lake Allegan during the 2025 Lake Allegan Kayak Run. Though this was not termed a "race", the competition was fierce, and the laughs were plentiful.

Kayakers began at Luis' Landing. As each of the 7 checkpoints were reached, participants emerged from their kayaks to try their skill, or luck, at a game. Each game was designed by Sharon Torregrosa who was instrumental in organizing the event.

"We had a great day despite a little more wind than we would have liked, but about 40 intrepid kayakers including a family of 4 who drove almost three hours from Dearborn Heights attended the event and had a great time," explained Torregrosa. "We probably had about 25 more people join us for the after party, awarding of prizes, and a magnificent taco bar catered by 'The Little Store' in Fennville."

It was often the games that brought the smiles and the twists of competition. "Our games were all built by me and include such things as wiffle ball toss, Plinko©, maze ball, Go Bananas, Wine bottle toss, Sidewinder, Roller Bowler, Wiebelspel (a balancing game) and more," quipped Torregrosa. "Additional games like a giant sized Kerplunk© , bean bag toss and strategy games were available to play at the after party, and the kids especially seemed to enjoy those. Participants won tickets at each of the shore stations and prizes were drawn from those tickets.

Music at Mahan

Saturday evening, August 9th, the Allegan Chapter of Kazoo Folklife brought "Michigan's Sweetheart" Carrie McFerrin back to Mahan Park to share her country-like twang when performing originals and cover music. She was backed up by the McFerrinheits as some have termed them - Jason on bass, Dane on drums, and Susan on fiddle. The combinations of heartfelt solos and harmonies with fantastic fiddling and solid percussion moved the audience from quiet contemplation to toe tapping rhythms.

Music on Mahan found Carrie McFerrin and her band on stage at Mahan Park, Saturday, Aug. 9, 2025. The music was a wonderful mix of Carrie's country-like solos with harmonies and wonderful instrumentals from band members.

Is it time to consider additional support?
Know the Signs
Have you found yourself wondering if your parents are okay living on their own? Maybe the house is becoming too much, or you've noticed changes — in their appearance, their routines, or their interest in things they once loved. These subtle shifts can be signs that your loved one may no longer be happy — or safe — living alone.
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Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of August 11, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Michigan Fiber Festival
Aug. 13-17, 2025: Classes https://www.michiganfiberfestival.info/
Aug. 15-17, 2025, 10am-5pm: Open to Public

Allegan Fair Entry Deadlines:
Aug. 15th, 11:59pm – order tickets for shows to have gate admission included.

Grill House Family Fun Days
Aug. 16-17, 2025: Live music, inflatable obstacle course, Yard games, Ice Cream

Fall Native Plant Sale order now; Pickup Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 9am-1pm:
Allegan Conservation District www.alleganCD.org/fallsale

Thurs., Aug. 14, 2025, 6:30pm: City Music Hall – Josh Rose & the Founding Fathers
City 116 S. Maple St. Fennville

Fri., Aug. 15, 2025, 5-9pm: Movies After Dark
Wayland Downtown Wayland

Sat., Aug. 16, 2025, 8-11am: Back to School Festival
Brookside Farm M-222 Allegan/Martin
Brookside Farm 34448 44th Ave. Paw Paw

Sat., Aug. 16, 2025, 7pm: Music at Mahan – AP Dailey News
Mahan Park Gazebo Brady St. Allegan

Mon., Aug. 18, 2025, 2025, 5-8pm: Fork in the Road, Food Truck Rally
Downtown Allegan. Find your favorite food!

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Aug. 13 – Thurs., Aug 14: Fiber Festival Classes
Allegan County Fairgrounds Fair Dr. Allegan

Wed., Aug. 13, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
10am: Family Storytime in the Park – all are welcome to enjoy stories and fun.
2pm: Recess for Adults – Enjoy a couple hours with friends from The Arc of Allegan County.
6pm: Financial Caregiving – Ashley Suarez of 5/3 Bank will discuss financial wellness.

Wed., Aug. 13, 2025, 6-8pm: Door Mats
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Have some fun creating a custom door mat! Materials are provided for 6. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Wed., Aug. 13 – Thurs., Aug 14: Fiber Festival Classes
Allegan County Fairgrounds Fair Dr. Allegan

Thurs., Aug. 14, 8am-2pm: Allegan Farmers Market
Parking Lot on Water and Cutler Streets
Buy local and enjoy…

Thurs., Aug. 14, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
6pm: All About the Allegan State Game Area – Don Poppe of the MI DNR will share history about the game area.

Thurs., Aug. 14, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Hydrodip Switch plates
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn how to hydro dip using solvent based paints on these oversized switchplate and outlet covers. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Thurs., Aug. 14, 2025, 6:30pm: City Music Hall – Josh Rose & the Founding Fathers
City 116 S. Maple St. Fennville
Enjoy Head-in-the-Clouds folk music.

Fri., Aug. 15-17, 2025, 10am-5pm: Michigan Fiber Festival
Allegan Co. Fairgrounds Fair Dr. Allegan
The Public is welcome to shop the the vendors, watch the competitions and demonstrations, and participate in classes.

Fri., Aug. 15, 2025, 5-9pm: Movies After Dark
Wayland Downtown Wayland

Fri., Aug 15, 2025, 6pm: Family Nerf Night
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
Come duke it out in the stacks! Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Aug. 15, 2025, 7-9pm: Rollin' on the River – The Nathan Moore Affair
Allegan Riverfront off Hubbard St. Allegan
Enjoy some soul/folk/rock fusion.

Fri., Aug. 15, 2025, 8:30pm-12:30am: Glow Disc Golf Night
First Baptist Church S. M-40 Allegan
Fun for the family to support the Congregational Kitchen free meals.

Sat., Aug. 16, 2025: Summer Reading Ends
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sat., Aug. 16, 2025, 8-11am: Back to School Festival
Brookside Farm M-222 Allegan/Martin
Brookside Farm 34448 44th Ave. Paw Paw

Celebrate the end of summer at both locations with a pancake breakfast from 8am-11am.
Inflatables will be available all day, free of charge! Martin/Otsego will have a free movie, *Migration*, for families to come enjoy at 5:30pm. The Army Dog Street Truck serve food at Martin/Otsego farm.

Sat., Aug. 16, 2025, 7pm: Music at Mahan – AP Dailey News
Mahan Park Gazebo Brady St. Allegan
Enjoy great Country & Oldies.

Mon., Aug. 18, 2025, 6pm: Craftastic: Mosaic Coaster
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
Enjoy making mosaic coasters. Materials provided. Register at 269 673-4625

Mon., Aug. 18, 2025, 2025, 5-8pm: Fork in the Road, Food Truck Rally
Downtown Allegan. Find your favorite food!

Tues., Aug 19, 2025, 10:30am: Lapsit Storytime
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
0-2 year olds enjoy stories and activities.

Wed., Aug 20, 2025, 6:30pm: Pub Quiz
Tantrick Brewery Hubbard St. Allegan
Gather a team, library cards and join the fun.

Wed., Aug. 20, 2025, 6-8pm: Ugly Brush
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn to use the Ugly Brush for directional strokes, building dark into lights, bringing depth to your piece. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Wed., Aug. 20, 2025: Bike Nights
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Thurs., Aug. 21, 8am-2pm: Allegan Farmers Market
Parking Lot on Water and Cutler Streets
Buy local and enjoy…

Thurs., Aug. 21, 2025, 10:30am: Preschool Storytime
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
3-5 year old can enjoy stories and activities.

Thurs., Aug. 21, 2025, 1-3pm: Palette Knife
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Carve out a painting with palette knife and a summer color palette on an 11x14 canvas. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Thurs., Aug. 21, 2025, 5pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
The Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes all businesses to network during "Happy Hour".

Thurs., Aug. 21, 2025, 6:30pm: City Music Hall – Genna & Jesse
City 116 S. Maple St. Fennville
Enjoy some Retro Soul Pop Folk.

Fri., Aug. 22, 2025, 5-7pm: 4th Friday in Fennville
Celebrate the Fennville community.

Fri., Aug. 22, 2025, 7-9pm: Rollin' on the River – The Fat Animals
Allegan Riverfront off Hubbard St. Allegan
Enjoy some jam-infused soul-n-roll.

Sat., Aug. 23, 2025: Allegan Fire District
7am-11:30: Pancake Breakfast / 11am – 6:30pm Spaghetti Dinner
Allegan Fire Station 300 Monroe St. Allegan
Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, hash brown potatoes and drinks.
Dinner includes Meat or No Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Small Salad and drinks.
The cost is a donation to the Allegan Firefighters Association.

Sat., Aug. 23, 2025, 11am-1pm: Door Mats
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Have some fun creating a custom door mat! Materials are provided for 6. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Sat., Aug. 23, 2025, 5pm: Retro Birthday Party
Allegan Eagles 2315 110 Chestnut St. Allegan
Dress for the 70s Retro Party. Steve Hitchcock will grill chicken & fixins. Dysfunctional Entertainment spins tunes, and Karaoke starts at 7pm.

Sat., Aug. 23, 2025, 7pm: Good Times at the Gazebo – Lighting Matches
Mahan Park Gazebo Brady St. Allegan
Enjoy great alternative-country.

Mon., Aug. 25, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 334 Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Craft & Snack – Bring a craft and enjoy a snack and conversation.
6pm: Bingo – Bring the family and play Bingo.

Mon., Aug. 25, 2025, 5-8pm: Fork in the Road, Food Truck Rally
Downtown Allegan. Last opportunity to find your favorite food!

Mon., Aug. 25, 2025, 6-8pm: Poverty + The Church
Love, In the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
Volunteers can join an introductory study on Bill Ehlig and Ruby Payne's book, What Every Church Member Should Know about Poverty. We will engage in discussion on how the mindset of those in poverty differs from those in middle class and wealth. For additional information, call (269) 751-2533.

Wed., Aug. 27, 6-8pm & Thurs., Aug. 28, 2025, 1-3pm: Hand Painted Journals
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Paint journals together! Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
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Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

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Community Events

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentde-paul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhope-hospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersof-hopemi.org, (269) 455-9452

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

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Senior Bingo!, Tuesdays from 1-3pm: American Legion Hall
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Allegan District Library, M-Th 10am-8pm, F 10am-5:30pm, Sat.10am-4pm:
Plus, Carnegie Corner Bookstore (Friend available on Tuesdays)
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard Street, lower level Allegan (269) 673-4625

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439 River Street Allegan
Twilight Special: Thurs., 4-9pm, 2hrs. for $18
Free Game Card: Fri., 4-9pm w/ $20 food purchase
Family 4-Pack: Sat., 5-9pm, 4 premier combo tickets w/ pizza+ for $130
For more information call 269-430-3961 or check online at https://www.alleganevent.com

Allegan County Historical Society, Old Jail Museum.
Fridays & Saturdays, 10 am – 4 pm, (269) 673-8292. Call to confirm hours or arrange for a private tour.
Email: oldjailmuseum06@yahoo.com Webpage: www.alleganoldjail.com

Children's Book Box – Immanuel Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church 631 Grand Street Allegan
Children can find free books in the Book Box constructed by the Sunday School Youth. Check it out.

Iron Bridge Quilters - Thursdays, 10am-2pm
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 Cedar St. Allegan
All ages and levels of expertise are welcome. Create a piece for yourself, for a friend or for a charity. Contact Claudia at acrasmussen5@gmail.com or (269) 673-4579 for more information.

Rivertown Fitness for All Ages and Families
Rivertown Gym & Fitness, 739 Airway Dr. Allegan. Check on the Core and More class. Call Todd at 269 686-7900 or email rivertowngym@gmail.com for additional information.

Scouting: Allegan has a variety of scouting opportunities. Each group is meeting in different ways to stay safe.
Cub Scout Pack 3026: Grades K-5. Call Cub Master Ron Gunter ron.f.gunter@gmail.com
Boy Scouts BSA 91 (boys 11-17 yrs.): Contact Scout Master Rob Keen 269 568-0435, eckeen1112@gmail.com
Girls Troop BSA 191 (girls 11-17): Contact Sara Keen sarajkeen@gmail.com.

Senior Fitness/Fit Over 50: Fun fitness designed for ages 50-80plus!
Hicks Gym, 311 E Plainwell Street, Plainwell. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. Drop in or call Sharrin at 269-330-3204 or email at denzgirllc@att.net.

The Fairways:
237 Hubbard St. Allegan (269) 655-5890
Get assistance with accuracy, distance, course management, club selection, or distance control. Work on a simulator, and treat it like a practice session at the course to achieve overall game improvement.

Tilt 118: Ice Cream, Pinball Machines, Food and More
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Contact: Email: smalltownamusements@gmail.com; Phone: 269 720-8137

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F 8am-12pm

Michigan's SNAP Fraud Crisis- fraud running rampant

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

Michigan's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) — a lifeline for roughly 1.4 million residents — is being chipped away, quite literally, by inadequate technology and sluggish enforcement.

In fiscal year 2024, fraud in Michigan's SNAP program surged by nearly 400%, reaching a staggering $884,947 in replacement benefits—up from just $181,778 the year before. Over the first quarter of 2025 alone, stolen benefits amounted to over $846,856.

Why this dramatic increase? The culprits: outdated magnetic-strip Bridge Cards, easily cloned via skimmers and fake card readers often installed at convenience stores, gas stations, and grocery outlets.

I'm not well-versed in this technology but apparently unscrupulous store owners are employing skimmers and fake card readers to steal from the program. The practice, if the aforementioned numbers are correct is multiplying at a rapid rate, all at the expense of those that deserve SNAP benefits.

Meanwhile, banks adopted chip-enabled cards back in 2015. Michigan's failure to follow suit isn't just behind the times—it's denying protection to its most vulnerable residents.

Changing to chip-based SNAP cards would cost roughly $16.3 million upfront and $2.7 million annually—but half of that is federally subsidized, leaving Michigan with an $8 million price tag.

So far, the state hasn't made the change. I ask, why not?

Yet in FY 2024, fraud payouts alone exceeded $14 million a sum that dwarfs the cost of a one-time upgrade. That means every Swiper's swipe is leaving a deeper mark on taxpayers and deserving families alike.

There is also fraud from inside. In other words those administering the SNAP program, allegedly are taking from it as well.

A shocking whistleblower case has come to light according to Michigan Confidential. Ashanta Butler, a long-time state employee of 23 years, claims she was fired shortly after reporting coworkers who were allegedly stealing SNAP benefits. She filed a court complaint alleging the scheme involved managers, including one named Angela Barbee, and that she was retaliated against by her supervisor Rachel Hill for making the protected report .

If substantiated, these allegations would provide a troubling explanation for Michigan's nearly 400% spike in food stamp fraud from fiscal years 2023 to 2024.

While fraud has spiked, enforcement has lagged. Between 2023 and 2024, Michigan referred only 110–111 cases for investigation—about the same as in previous years—even as fraud ballooned.

From 2020 to 2024, only 432 individuals were considered for prosecution—an alarmingly small number in the context of tens of millions of dollars in lost benefits.

Michigan has taken some steps: seizing 44 skimmers, disqualifying, suspending, or fining dozens of retailers, and sending warning letters and alerts to households.

It also received federal grants—$749,987 in 2023 and $746,445 in 2024—to bolster fraud detection analytics and recipient education.

But these efforts, while essential, are patchwork. Without the foundational upgrade to chip technology and cleaning up the fraud from within the system remains inherently vulnerable.

Michigan faces a tragic irony: choosing fiscal delay now only results in greater expense later. The failure to modernize SNAP card technology isn't just a security oversight—it's an ethical lapse, exposing families to theft and leaving tax dollars to fall through the cracks.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

Abraham Lincoln is attributed to saying, "A man is just about as happy as he makes up his mind to be," but it is a contemporary French writer we'll call "C" who added, "It takes tremendous courage to be happy."

"C" has every reason to be miserable. She was born in the middle of World War Two when the Nazis were running rampant in France. Her father was gone, and her first job was working behind the counter at a huge department store selling brassieres to very wealthy women. That lit a fire in her heart and brain, and somehow she found the funds to go to law school and became an attorney. Professionally, she was very successful, and for a while practiced her in the United States. Like Coco Chanel, she drank champagne only when she fell in love or when her heart was broken. Let's just say, she went through a lot of bottles over the years because of it. Her husband traded her in on a new and more sporty model, leaving her all alone after retirement; she started a new niche career: She now teaches Americans how to swear in French. "Happiness," she believes, "is hard earned."

In case you are wondering, I signed on as one of her students. It adds to my happiness to know I can break out the epithets to boneheaded drivers and they will never know what I am saying. I got to try it out the other day in Holland when a woman was walking behind me, focused on her phone, and walked into me. She had no idea what I said, but from the tone of my voice she could tell I was not in a chipper mood.

Some people are inherently happy, almost as if they were born that way. Fortunately, there are not too many of them because most of us are not so cheerful. After a few hours of being in their company we find their perpetual happiness exceedingly annoying. For us, we must work at happiness.

I agree that it takes courage to be happy, perhaps more so than in decades. There are a number of reasons I write that: Politics, on all levels, seems like an endless siege. So much of what we read of what is happening in Washington, and to a lesser extent, Lansing, is emotionally draining. It is like a television where every channel is professional wrestling twenty-four hours a day, and there is no off button. It is a lot of pure phoniness and trash talk. There is no joy in that.

All the prattle about public policy decisions, especially on immigration, the economy, and the endless war in the Middle East and threats of war elsewhere, wears us down. We debate and fight over Bibles and posters of the 10 Commandments, lunches in school, medical care, or a federal order to start rounding up the homeless and cart them off somewhere. That wears us down, too.

Ask someone how he or she is doing, and it is a rare moment when we hear that they are happy. In fact, it is so rare, we view it with suspicion. Eight years ago, I said 'good morning' to someone, and they tore a strip off me. How dare I use the word 'good' when we see what is happening in the world!

My belief is that if we are going to be happy, we have to work at it.

I think happiness begins the first thing in the morning, but only if we can avoid the temptation of turning on our telephone, television, radio, or any other noise-making device. We need time to be quiet, reflect, perhaps plan the day, and meditate. In turn, that leads to gratitude. We realize how fortunate we are to be alive, to have something to do, and the ability to do it.

No silence means now time to reflect and meditate. No meditation and reflection means no opportunity for gratitude. No gratitude means no happiness. It becomes a vicious circle.

It takes courage to turn off the electronic devices and not let our curiosity overwhelm us. What ever happens in the world overnight will still be discussed in another hour, if we must listen to it then. Take the hour or even half hour, to set your mental disposition dial on happiness, instead of your unhealthy fear of missing out on something.

Psychologists tell us that there are two conditions that lead to our unhappiness: time and control, and sometimes they are combined. We never have enough time to do the things we want to do, or someone is often interfering with our time.

Theodore Roosevelt was perhaps our least patient president. He could not stand being idle, and enforced idleness made him as restless as a wild animal in a small cage. A lot of people are that way. When I was writing my mysteries my main character, Dr. Horace Balfour, was based in small part on him and other restless people. His phrase was, "Thunderation! I'm stuck in the waiting room again!"

Roosevelt had the good sense always to have a book nearby. Whenever he was 'stuck in the waiting room' he got out something to read. Prior to going on his African safari in 1909-1910, he commissioned some 100 classic books bound in pig's skin. Pigskin, he explained, did not mold, and Africa was damp. It worked. If he was waiting for someone or something, much to everyone's relief, out came a book.

I followed that example when Pat and I traveled. She loved to shop; I hate shopping, but I wanted her to have fun. A pocketsize electronic reader, a Kindle Paperwhite, solved the problem. I loaded it down with free books and could enjoy myself. One time, when she found me outside a shop engrossed in a book, she asked what I was reading. I told her it was the history of the Minnesota Third Infantry Militia in the Great Sioux Uprising of 1862. She was not impressed, but I learned something about a nearly forgotten subject.

One way to regain control of our time is to start bundling an enjoyable activity that can be done in the midst of an unpleasant one. Many of us can safely enjoy a book on tape or some other type of audio book while we are driving somewhere.

In a slight variation, we made routine activities into a ritual. For example, each summer there is the six-week Chamber Music Festival series in Saugatuck. Some of the music I like; others sounded too much like five cats having a full volume spat while a train wreck was taking place in the back ground. What made all of it much more fun was the ritual of learning about the music on the program and the composer, dressing early to attend so we could have a nice meal at home, walking the five blocks down to the venue, and the concert itself. And then, walking back home to discuss it. More than anything else, converting a concert into a package deal made it wonderful. We used our time wisely.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student enjoys summer reading program

Dear Editor,

I am a student at Otsego Middle School, and every year I enjoy reading for the summer reading program. However, this year's program at Otsego District Public Library was exceptional. The staff obviously put a lot of thought into it to blend reading and art in a fun way. They did an amazing job of giving kids many different ways to read and explore art. I also want to thank the sponsors such as Arby's, Dairy Freeze, Pizza Hut, Culvers, Meijer, and the Friends of the Library for all the great prizes for finishing. I can't wait find great ways to read and learn that the library comes up with next summer!

Sincerely,

Liam Tuttle

Wants Gaza news on front page

Dear Editor:

I am writing to implore you to make Gaza front-page news in your newspaper. Every day on your TVs you see the body count of Palestinian dead and the images of children that are nothing but skin and bones. You can add your own details to this story. The Israeli Occupation Forces (commonly know as IDF), supported by the U.S. are imposing a starvation campaign on 2 million people in Gaza. American taxpayers are bankrolling this starvation/expulsion campaign, yet news outlets, such as yours, are silent (if you are not, blessings on you). Choosing to omit this story from the front pages of your publication violates your mission statement; and implicates you in the mass death of Palestinians in Gaza. Do your jobs. Signed,

Dirikaia Barbara Hasan

Reader claims Huizenga a rubber stamp for Trump

Dear Editor:

Honorable M.Huizenga:

Are you enjoying your summer vacation? No doubt you are caught up with getting your rubber stamp re-gilded, meeting with wealthy donors and guarding pedophiles. Life can be busy. Little wonder you don't have time to have in-person town halls to explain how all those policies you voted to approve are helping us: the common, patriotic Americans living and working in this district.

The Big Billionaire's Betrayal Bill has so many provisions it's difficult to address all of them in short letters to you. But it seems like you would be excited to tell a live audience how removing taxes on gun silencers benefits those of us who will be losing our health insurance. Then again, you could tell us how funding an unaccountable paramilitary (ICE) will increase educational opportunities throughout this nation. These are just two of the fine conditions you voted to become the law of the land. Don't you want to take a victory lap to tout how the tax cuts for the robber barons will help the people who are out looking for work?

You voted to expand ICE to be a paramilitary with a budget larger than the entire Marine Corps is especially notable. A whirlwind recruiting effort is underway to provide troops for this police/military force. Recruiters are in such a sweat to provide people for the new force, they are looking at wannabe policemen who couldn't make the grade in a regular police/sheriff organization. Sadists, misogynists, racists, and all persons willing to strut around with lethal weapons strapped to their legs are likely members. Bonus points for anyone who shaves his/her head and adopts the soulless Stephen Miller stare. You could ask the founder of a local robber baron's private paramilitary group to whip these folks into shape. There's plenty of taxpayer money to add to his inherited billions.

Once every last brown or black person who doesn't have the proper papers is rounded up, detained and/or deported, what will this paramilitary be charged with then? Would you like to have ICE set its sights on dissenters, protesters, foreign visitors, newspaper editors? Perhaps even a retired carpenter will be seen as such a threat that only a visit from "the authorities" will shut him up.

Thanks for your recent email touting the effectiveness of Trump's whimsical tariffs. You really should sit down and write your own emails. This one must be the product of a focus group made up of an infinite number of simians with typewriters. Anyway, you tell how "Trump's leadership has encouraged more than 5 Trillion dollars in new domestic investment…" My golly, that's a lot of tacos! Just last Friday the Bureau of Labor Statistics published a report showing dismal job creation in the U.S. and its impact on a slowing economy. The current occupant of our White House didn't like this report from the highly respected, non-partisan Bureau reported numbers contradicting his self serving proclamations that the economy is hot. Rather than looking at what he could do to improve the jobs numbers by structural changes to his economic policy, he fired the head of the Bureau. When you repeat his 5 Trillion dollar number, do you ever ask yourself where this information originated? Maybe HE should be fired for cooking the books. By the way, have you been to the store recently? Check out the price of coffee.

Since "Liberation Day", Trump taxes have reportedly brought in 121 Billion dollars. At this rate, revenue from those tariffs would offset the cost of all the corporate tax breaks contained in the Big Ugly Bill. What a good deal! Oopsie, those tariffs are being paid by…wait for it…American consumers! Of course, the people most burdened by those extra costs are the most vulnerable among us: the poorer segments of the population, and the elderly. Nice job effectively shifting corporate tax burdens to those who can afford them least.

Glad you're getting your rubber stamp refurbished and re-inked. You will need it as you continue to abandon your duties as an Article One Member of Congress.

Sincerely William & Mary Jones

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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Letters to the editor

"Due Process and U. S. Laws on immigration"

Dear Editor:

Due Process related to Immigration Laws started with the 1790 Naturalization Act. Just about every few years something is added or changed. Some notable examples: 1952 Law limiting Chinese with Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1965 Law of Family Reunification by Bill Clinton and 2012 Barack Obama Executive action, rejected by courts.

Enough is enough! Some homework was needed to determine what United States of American Laws says about immigration? As usual, when searching the internet there is an abundance of resources. Erica! Today one of the latest immigration Law document is Title 8, U.S.C. 1324(a) Offenses; this document enacted in 1952 and the Illegal Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act updated in 1996.

Or, how about reading 8 USC 111 or 1227; interestingly reading these laws didn't require the use of magical decoder rings or an A. I. language translation either.

Informing myself on these immigration laws only took about 60 minutes. My first thought was, why are there so few people NOT prosecuted for knowingly conspiring, aiding and abetting unauthorized aliens entering the United States? The possibilities why supporters of aliens are not prosecuted abound; perhaps it's a mystery, special language translations of the Laws, … or neglect of responsibility or ignoring ones oath of office? It's clear there are many reasons to ignore and subvert the offenses related to alien smuggling.

Some of U.S.C. 1324(a) penalties are interesting too:

- Basic penalty per smuggled person, one year in prison plus fines
- Commercial Advantage 10 years in prison
- Serious bodily harm, 20 years in prison
- Death from actions, life in prison

There remains a question. Why are there so many diverse issues on unauthorized alien immigration? It's simple. There exists two entrenched camps of behavior:

One camp is attempting to enforce current U. S. Immigration Laws.

Another camp continues to ignore U. S. Immigration Laws via Sanctuary policies and litigation.

Perhaps accessories and conspiracies will diminish as more people discover the clarity of U. S. Immigration Laws? Or Perhaps, the resolution will be increasing the numbers of arrests and prosecutions for smuggling, transporting, … and aiding and abetting of unauthorized aliens? Perhaps there will be more "Due Process". How about a Reality Check?

References: USCIS.gov, Federal Criminal web, Pew Research Center, Google search U. S. Immigration Law.

Philip Zamlynski

Readers need to look past TDS

Dear Editor:

Almost every week I read the Letters to the Editor. Majority of the time they are from the left, Democrats, complaining about the Trump administration. The majority of the time the facts are incorrect. Some are just off the wall.

To all who read these letters, please do your homework/ research. Look past the TDS.

Mary Scholten

City of Allegan expands its reach to engage with local residents

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to share a few new ways you can connect with the City of Allegan and stay informed about the work we are doing to improve our community.

Over the past several years, the City of Allegan has taken great strides to increase transparency with the public. This includes publishing all city council packets on our website so residents have access to the same information as their elected officials. Our city hall, built in 2019, is equipped with modern audio-visual technology, ensuring that everyone in attendance can clearly hear and see what is being discussed. In addition, we livestream all council meetings so those unable to attend in person can watch in real time. Recordings are then archived on the City of Allegan's YouTube channel, with agendas time-stamped so viewers can quickly find the topics that matter most to them.

In the spirit of openness, the city has recently launched a free texting service that allows residents to receive important city updates directly on their mobile phones. To sign up, visit cityofallegan.org and register for notifications. This service gives us another way to share timely and relevant information with you.

While I am always available to make time to meet with residents regarding city services, beginning in August, I will hold regular "City Hall Connection" hours for informal drop-in conversations. Community members are welcome to visit Allegan City Hall at 231 Trowbridge Street between 9:00–10:00am on the second Tuesday of each month, and between 5:00–6:00pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month. These sessions are a chance to check in on city matters, ask questions, or share ideas and solutions for the challenges we face together.

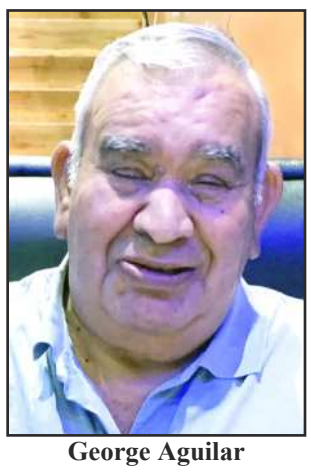
I look forward to hearing from you and working alongside you to make Allegan a great place to live, work, and do business.

Joel Dye
City Manager
City of Allegan

Obituary

George Aguilar

George Aguilar, 78, passed at way at his home in Fennville, Michigan, on Saturday, August 9. Survived by his wife of Fennville, Beverly Aguilar, two children, several grand and great grandchildren, five brothers and one sister. George lived in Fennville most of his life, worked for the State of Michigan, loved to golf and frequented West Shore Golf club often, over the years. He loved working in his gardens, growing tomatoes and peppers to make Chile.



George Aguilar

He enjoyed watching his grandchildren run and giggle through his yard. He served for four years in the Airforce as a plane engine mechanic. We are saddened by the loss of this great man who worked hard and could fix anything. George was not a man of many words, but we will miss hearing the few he shared. Rest in Peace and Love.

A formal memorial service and burial will be scheduled for early summer 2026. You can message Bev on Facebook to send condolences.

AHS Class of 1955 holds reunion

The Allegan High School Class of 1955 met recently for their 70n class reunion. Attending were, back row from the left, Don Chappell, Shirley (Thompson) Artlington, Jim Thomas, Ron Marsteiner, Jerry Masek, Peg (Conroy) Wegenka, Edna (Burnett) Alexander. Front row from the left, Evelyn (Hoffman) Keck, Harry Tooker, Art Counterman and Anne Marie (Havaich) Bartz.

In 2023 the Class commissioned a mural depicting the old Allegan High School and items and activities from 1955. This mural is installed above the concession stand outside the main gymnasium entrance at the high school. The remainder of their funds will be donated to the Congregational Kitchen.

Allegan County Sheriff's Office

Public Notice of Intent to Dispose of Firearms

The following is a list of firearms in evidence at the Allegan County Sheriff's Office, 640 River St., Allegan, MI 49010. If no valid ownership claim is received within thirty (30) days of the date of public notice, the firearms listed will be disposed of. Please Note: these firearms are not for sale.

If you have a valid claim to any of these firearms and are authorized to possess firearms, contact Lt. Mike Brown on how to get the firearm returned to you.

Contact:
Lt. Mike Brown
Allegan Co Sheriff's Office
640 River St., Allegan, MI 49010
Ph# 269-673-0500 ext. 4592, or mbrown@allegancounty.org

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
20270-20	Taurus	G3 pistol	9mm	ABJ962118
5420-20	Sig Sauer	P365 pistol	9mm	66A721103
13663-19	S&W	Mod 64-8 revolver	.38	CHM5231
15114-20	Walther	Mod CCP pistol	9mm	WK121927
12038-20	Hi-Point	Mod CF380 pistol	.380	P8068978
7383-19	Taurus	Mod G2 pistol	9mm	TKS29467
12703-19	Colt	Mod Automatic pistol	.25	43915
12703-19	Kahr	Mod CM40 pistol	.40	JN0593
3625-19	S&W	Mod Shield pistol	9mm	LFL9487
5663-20	Heritage	Mod Rough Rider revolver	22lr	HZ61147
6765-20	Taurus	Mod G2C pistol	9mm	TMS69742
13878-20	Taurus	Mod G3 pistol	9mm	AAL070734
4706-20	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	708029
6522-20	Taurus	Mod 605 revolver	.357	MT87400
20190-21	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACC725158
22215-21	S&W	Mod 64-8 revolver	.38spl	CXB6227
19305-21	Replica	Mod Black Powder Revolver	.44	209290
5914-12	Hawes Firearms	Mod 169 revolver	22lr	462002
2202-12	Taurus	Mod PT 1911 pistol	.45acp	NAM78120
8846-21	CZ-USA	Mod P-10s pistol	9mm	UC02746
12996-21	Sig Sauer	Mod P320 pistol	9mm	58J041463
19121-21	S&W	Mod SD9VE pistol	9mm	FBV4718
10999-25	Cimarron	Revolver	.22lr	U68374
10999-25	Sig Sauer	1911 pistol	.45acp	548021371

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Allegan City transfers revenue to cover downtown events

By Gari Voss

The Allegan City Council approved several budgetary items during their August 11, 2025, meeting, but one of the most pressing addressed the funding of it major Positively Allegan events. Residents and visitors come Downtown to enjoy major gatherings like Bridgefest, the July 3rd Jubilee, and the New Year's Eve Ball Drop. The City depends upon sponsorships to cover costs, but the only events that have received full funding this year have been the Rollin' On the River concerts. Money was moved to the Positively Allegan line item for 2025, but work needs to be done to secure more funding from other sources.

PUBLIC HEARINGS
Rezone 650 Grand Street.

The property at 650 Grand Street is being rezoned to a PUD Planned Unit Development District so Community Action of Allegan County (CAAC) can move most of its activities to the former United Way building. The first unit to move would be Head Start. Further activities would require some new construction to accommodate other operations of the CAAC. The Planning Commission reviewed the application at their July 21, 2025, meeting and unanimously passed a motion to recommend that the City Council approve the rezoning request.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS
Airport Advisory Board

Mayor Pro Tem Peter Hanse reviewed key points from the August 4, 2025, meeting of the Airport Advisory Board. Hanger space is available, and construction of the new T hanger has begun. Support but no vote was given to a request to bale the airport grounds. Director Doug Kadzban shared that the PAPI units can have baffles installed.

Plans are beginning to host a pancake breakfast and fly in on the 3rd weekend of June 2026. The breakfast could be done by another organization. Included in the day would be a car show, food trucks, a movie night and a DJ. A request for a budget was made.

Ninety-nines, an international organization of female pilots, had been contacted regarding repainting the compass rose at the airport.

Water Utilities

Water Director Doug Sweeris requested a Change Order to PO 25-0768 to Abonmarche in the amount of $50,830 for TMF Grant Work.

The TMF Grant covers 100% of engineering administration costs, investigative excavation, and restoration after excavation. The original grant included $80,000 to Abonmarche, $416,370 to Plummers, and $103,630 contingency. The new request would allow Abonmarche to include a person to locate services. In addition, Plummer will expand their pothole work, and there will be expanded engineering administration services. The council approved the request for the Change Order.

Public Works

The request to approve PO 26-0819 to Consumers Energy in the amount of $3,272.95 and PO 260829 to Windemuller Electric Inc in the amount of $37,095 for Underground Electric Services in the Hubbard Parking Lot was approved.

Burying some of the power lines would reduce the visual clutter. Consumers Energy will need to be contracted to upgrade the current meter sockets. Windemuller Electric offered the lowest bid to complete the project. The affected properties would be 221 Trowbridge, 110 Chestnut (Eagles), 108 Chestnut, and the Regent Theater.

Some of the savings from the original budget were used to resurface the Water Street Parking lot. The grant plus some additional outside funding should cover the electrical improvements.

Standard Lighting Contract

The request to adopt Resolution 25.25 approving changes to the Standard Lighting Contract between the City of Allegan and Consumers Energy was approved. The city contracts with Consumers Energy for streetlights with a rate set for the public fixtures. The 5 new streetlights will be installed along Sherman Street as part of the River Ridge Development.

Administrative Services

Payment of Bills. The request to approve accounts payable in the amount of $1,191,685.78 and payroll in the amount of $122,557.82 for a total disbursement of $1,314,243.60 passed.

Downtown Allegan Event Funding. The city staff did a review of Downtown Allegan events and explained the need to request a transfer of $41,000 to Positively Allegan to cover the budgets for Downtown events. The deficit would be covered with $26,000 from the DDA and $15,000 from the General Fund. This is not the first time that such a transfer was made.

The major Downtown events depend upon sponsorship. Thus far in 2025, only Rollin' on the River and the Griswold Concert sponsorships covered the costs. Bridgefest and the July 3rd Jubilee did not have enough sponsorships to cover expenditures. Hoot-a-Howl, Festive Fridays and the NYE!26 New Year's Eve have time to cover expected expenditures, but at this time the city is looking for additional support.

The city staff recommended that the City Council return to past practice and approve a transfer of $26,000 from the DDA and $15,000 from the General Fund to Positively Allegan, and the City Council agreed.

The city has begun using Better Butter to request donations. The council members shared thoughts regarding possible places to request sponsorships. Community groups or individuals are welcome to contribute to a favorite event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A question was posed concerning the sale of the lot across from Westside Auto. A cash offer had been made, and though it was believed an agreement had been reached, the county did not complete the transaction. It was learned that if an agreement was reached, the parcel would need to be rezoned to match the new intended purpose.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Joel Dye shared that a texting service has begun with the city's phone provider. Residents can go to https://www.cityofallegan.org/ for additional information and to make a request to opt in. City events will be announced along with other special occurrences.

The Fair Parade is on the second Monday of September, so there will be a determination made on August 25th to cancel the September 8, 2025 meeting.

Lakeshore Advantage brought about 40 people to Allegan for their business tour. Joel encouraged the participants to invest in Allegan.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Councilmember Zeter was curious about the basement spaces for lease. He was informed that two units are occupied so there are spaces to lease. He also asked about the usage of the EV charging station. Dye said that they would run a report and get back to him. He also noted that there had been little activity at the new subdivision. Dye shared that construction should begin within the next couple weeks, but the construction company is awaiting approvals for all facets of the infrastructure. The city wants to be sure that everything is properly installed before construction begins.

Councilmember Hanse inquired about the status of the rental inspection ordinance changes. The last discussion required changing some language. Is it ready to bring to the Council? He felt that either the document should be completed with approval given to the language and enforced, or it should be dropped. Hanse and Walker are willing to work with staff along with a couple landlords and tenants to cover the major stakeholders. It was also suggested that homeowners be included.

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Dr. Chris Buckley
and welcoming
Dr. Melinda Kelley

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Bluegrass Animal Clinic

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WAYLAND TOWNSHIP
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLLS FOR SEYMOUR DRIVE ROAD SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT; and WEST SELKIRK DRIVE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

TO: The residents and property owners of the Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, owners of land within the special assessment districts and any other interested persons:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of Wayland Township will hold public hearings on the special assessment district rolls for the special assessment districts identified herein, all of which were created under PA 188 of 1953 for the assessing of costs against the benefitted parcels within each special assessment district

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in accordance with the laws and statutes of the State of Michigan, the Township Board will hold a public hearing at the Township Hall, 1060 129th Avenue, Shelbyville, MI 49311 within the Township, on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 commencing at 6:30 p.m. to consider the proposed special assessment rolls prepared by the Township Supervisor and assessing officer for the following Special Assessments:

Seymour Drive Road Special Assessment District described as those parcels with frontage on Seymour Drive within the Township --$100 per parcel; and
West Selkirk Lake Drive Road Special Assessment District described as those parcels with frontage on West Selkirk Lake Drive within the Township ---$100 per parcel; and

These amounts are unchanged from the prior years' special assessment.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that at the aforesaid public hearing, the Township Board will review the special assessment rolls and any comments or objections thereto which may be made or filed with said Board at or prior to the time of said public hearing, and will consider any revisions, amendments or changes to said proposed special assessment roll and the amount to be levied against the benefited benefitted parcels.

Appearance and protest at this public hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the proposed special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal. An owner or party in interest or his or her agent may appear in person at this hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance to protest by letter received at or before the public hearing. If such letter of protest is filed, the personal appearance of the person protesting will not then be required to appear at the hearing.

An owner or party in interest in the property being assessed, who has appeared at the aforesaid hearing in the manner hereinbefore indicated, may file a written appeal of this/her assessment with the State Tax Tribunal within a maximum or 30 days after the confirmation of the aforesaid special assessment roll by the Township Board.

Following the approval and confirmation of the proposed special assessment rolls, such special assessment will be collected in the same manner as property taxes are collected.

The Township will provide necessary and reasonable auxillary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon reasonable notice to the undersigned of the need for the same at least 5 days prior to the hearing.

All interested parties are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place to submit comments concerning any of the foregoing, or to protest the proposed special assessment roll for the special assessment district in which their property is located.

WAYLAND TOWNSHIP
Lilliam DeKoning, Clerk
dekoningl@waytwp.org
Mailing Address: PO Box 1
Bradley, MI 49311
269-792-0410
www.waytwp.org
Township Hall address:
1060 129th Avenue
Shelbyville, MI 49344

Notice
of Public Hearing
Salem Township
Planning Commission

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act) the Planning Commission of Salem Township will hold public hearing to deliberate and possibly take action on the following items on Thursday, September 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Salem Township Hall, located at 3003 142nd Avenue, Burnips, Michigan.

The agenda items are as follows:

1. Proposal to adopt a complete revision of the Salem Township Zoning Ordinance.
   The proposed changes are based on a Zoning Ordinance Audit conducted by contracted consultants to the 2024 Township Master Plan and subsequent analysis and deliberation by the Salem Township Planning Commission over a period of seventeen (17) months. This proposal comes as the final step in the process of implementing a series of public policy and ordinance amendments which began with said Master Plan.
   Proposed changes include but are not limited to:
   a. Addition and alteration of definitions for clarity.
   b. Addition of regulations for commercial and noncommercial solar energy conversion systems.
   c. Addition of RMH Manufactured Home Park District to increase Township control over specific types of development.
   d. Relocation of uses to more appropriate zoning districts.
   e. Reorganization of Township chapters and sections for clarity and ease of navigation.
2. Any other such business as comes before the Salem Township Planning Commission.

Copies of the draft Ordinance and all changes therein is available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours.

This meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for Township residents and interested citizens to express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the request. Those unable to attend the public hearing via electronic or phone access are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Zoning Administrator at the Township Hall address cited above. All written comments must be received by no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 4, 2025.

If any resident has a physical disability which may limit his/her participation in this hearing, please notify the Township Hall at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

SALEM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
BRANDON OOSTERINK, CHAIRMAN
616-877-2000

Art thrives in downtown Otsego

By Elizabeth Vander Ven

Since 2020, art has been a bigger part of downtown Otsego. It started with Otsego Arts as a part of the Mainstreet grant program. Over the past five years, Otsego Arts has evolved to become the Otsego Arts Council, a division of Together Otsego Prospers. Together Otsego Prospers is a nonprofit established in place of Mainstreet with the goal of helping Otsego reach its potential by bringing joy, prosperity, and beauty to the community through various events.

The Otsego Arts Council strives to meet this goal by creating, supporting, and celebrating the arts in the greater Otsego area. "I'm so grateful for the Otsego Arts Council and all they do to make our downtown vibrant!" Otsego City Commissioner Jason Smith says. "Their beautiful art along the riverside path and festive Christmas decor bring a heart-warming sense to our community."

Projects spearheaded by the Otsego Arts Council have included the Art Garden downtown by the Barber Shop, a series of murals along Otsego's downtown riverwalk, and two annual events: the Otsego Arts Competition, and the Otsego Artisan Market. The Otsego Arts Council has just completed the fourth round of hosting these annual events.

The past two years, the Otsego Arts Council has also brought art a little closer to home by hosting a rock-painting night as a part of Otsego's Summer Fun Nights series. Smith says that these events "have an amazing way of bringing us all together—families painting side by side and creating memories." Another ongoing project of the Otsego Arts Council is to paint winter scene panels annually to create a windbreak for the TOP Pavilion ice skating rink.

Through these projects and events, the Otsego Arts Council hopes to instill a greater appreciation for art in the community, beautify the daily lives of those who work, play, and stay in Otsego, and encourage those with gifts and talents in art to pursue their calling as artists. The Arts Council is always looking for artists to partner with as well as volunteers to help plan events and make them possible. The Otsego Arts Council is made up of a group of local volunteers with a heart for the community and for art.

"As a member of The Otsego Arts Council I can support local artists and the beauty they create," Sandy Foster, part of the Otsego Arts Council says. "I'm not an artist, but I appreciate art and love being part of this community." These volunteers meet monthly to plan events, coordinate sponsorship, and look to the future. "I truly admire their heart for Otsego and the care they pour into every detail," Smith says.

Anyone interested in joining the Otsego Arts Council or simply learning more about it is welcome to attend the next event or meeting. The next event will be a painting workshop for the TOP Pavilion ice rink panels and sponsored Christmas card panels and will take place at Brave Art Studios in Allegan Saturday, August 16th at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting will be at the Otsego District Public Library on Tuesday, August 26th at 5:30 p.m.

The Otsego Arts Council is on Facebook as Otsego Arts, A Division of Together Otsego Prospers. This page is kept updated with photos, information, and events to keep the community connected to what's going on. Reach out via the Facebook page or connect with a council member by email to learn more: Sandy Foster (interim coordinator) fostersandym@gmail.com or Elizabeth Vander Ven (secretary) elizabeth.joy.abbott@gmail.com.

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NOTICE - PUBLIC LAND AUCTION

The Allegan County Treasurer will offer tax- reverted real estate at public auction online at **www.tax-sale.info**.

The first auction will be held on **August 27th, 2025 from 10:00am to 7:00pm EDT**. Bids can also be placed up to 30 days in advance on the website. Assistance is available for those without computer or internet access.

Incomplete or voided sales from the August 27th, 2025 auction, if any, will be re-offered on September 26th, 2025 from 10:00am to 7:00pm EDT.

Unsold tax reverted real estate from either of the previous auctions, if any, will be re- offered on October 31st, 2025 in a sealed- bid auction. All bids must be placed by 7:00 pm EDT for this final sealed-bid auction. Answers to common questions about the auction process and additional information can be found at **www.tax-sale.info/faq** For more information and to view a list of the properties being offered, please visit **www.tax-sale.info** or call 1-800-259-7470. Auction listings may also be available at the County Treasurer's office.

TOWNSHIP OF WAYLAND
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2026 ROLL FOR THE SELKIRK LAKE AQUATIC WEED CONTROL SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF WAYLAND TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Supervisor and Assessing Officer have prepared and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a special assessment roll covering those properties in the Selkirk Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment District. In accordance with the requirements of PA 188 of 1954, as amended, the roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing the costs of the project within the aforesaid district, as more particularly shown by the plans on file with the Township Clerk.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the special assessment amount for each parcel for the first year is calculated on the basis of $1.27 per lineal foot of frontage on Selkirk Lake. The Supervisor and Assessor have further reported to the Township Board that the assessment against each parcel of land within said district is such relative portion of the whole sum levied against all parcels of land in said district as the benefit to each such parcel bears to the total benefit of all such parcels.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing on the plans, district, and cost estimates for the Selkirk Lake Aquatic Weed Control Special Assessment District will be held at the Wayland Township Hall at 1060 129th Avenue, Shelbyville, MI 49344 on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, commencing at 6:30 p.m. After the public hearing, the Township Board may confirm the roll as submitted or revised or amended. The roll may be examined by contacting the Township Clerk at (269) 424-792-6394 or via email at dekoningl@waytwp.org.

At the hearing, the Board will consider any written objections and comments to any of the foregoing matters which are filed with the Clerk at or before the hearing, and any objections or comments raised at the hearing; and at the hearing (or any adjournment of the hearing which may be made without further notice), the Township Board may revise, correct, amend or change the plans, cost estimates or special assessment district.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that appearance and protest at the public hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the special assessment roll is confirmed.

An owner or party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file at or before the hearing his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if the special assessment roll is confirmed, the Township Board intends to hold a public hearing once each year in future years to reassess property in the special assessment district for the costs in the next year, and will provide notice of such hearing by publication in the newspaper only, unless the amount to be specially assessed increases by more than 10 percent in any one year, in which case mailed notice of the public hearing will be provided to owners of property to be specially assessed. The Township Board reserves the right not to levy an assessment in any year or to levy a lesser assessment amount in any year that there are more funds in the special assessment fund than the amount needed for that year's weed control work and associated activities.

Wayland Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing, to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon four (4) days' notice to the Wayland Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Wayland Township Clerk.

Lilliam DeKoning, Clerk
dekoningl@waytwp.org
Wayland Township
Mailing Address: PO Box 1, Bradley, MI 49311
Township Hall Address: 1060 129th Avenue,
Shelbyville, MI 49344
269-792-6394 • www.waytwp.org

NOTICE
OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION
TOWNSHIP OF MONTEREY
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTEREY, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following is a summary of Ordinance 25-02 which was adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Monterey at a regular board meeting held August 4, 2025.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MONTEREY TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE'S ZONING MAP.

SECTION 1 Amend the Official Zoning Map and rezone from the A-1 Agriculture District to the R-1 Rural Estate District the property legally described as follows

THAT PT NE 1/4 SE 1/4 LYING W OF HWY EX COM AT NE COR TH W 569.25 FT TH S 556.25 FT E TO CENTER LINE HWY TH NELY ALONG CENTER LINE HWY TO BEG ALSO EX COM 1943.05 FT E & 1320 FT S OF CTR POST SEC 28 TH N 778 FT TH S 84 DEG E TO CTR HWY TH S 16 DEG W 600 FT TH S 22 DEG W 153 FT TH W TO BEG ALSO EX COM AT E 1/4 POST SEC 28 TH W ON 1/4 LIN 569.25 FT TH S PPL TO THE E SEC LIN 556.25 FT TO POB OF THIS DES TH N PPL TO THE E SEC LIN 556.25 FT TH W ON THE 1/4 LIN 759.15 FT TO THE N & S 1/8 LIN OF SE 1/4 TH S ON SD 1/8 LIN 595 FT TH E 615.65 FT TH N 53 FT TH S 84 DEG E TO POB SEC 28 T3N R13W.

also known as permanent parcel number 03-16-028-014-00,

SECTION 2 SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this ordinance are severable.

SECTION 3 EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect 8 days after publication after adoption.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the full text of Ordinances 25-02 is on file in the Office of the Monterey Township Clerk at the address set forth below and has also been posted at the Township's website for inspection by the general public.

Megan Frank, Clerk
Township of Monterey
2999 30th Street
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 793-2014

Laketown Township board calls back manager candidate for more questions

The Laketown Township Board of Trustees on Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2025, agreed to ask manager finalist Stephanie Fox to return for a third interview after citing new questions about her time as a county administrator.

No date or time has been set for that interview.

The board voted 4-1 on July 21 to begin negotiations with Fox pending a review of her references. Supervisor Steven Ringelberg dissented. The township and Fox negotiated a tentative 2-year contract setting Fox's annual salary at $110,000 with the possibility of a bonus up to $15,000 if she meets agreed-upon objectives set by the board in her first 30 days. The proposed contract also includes added vacation days requested by Fox.

The board must approve the contract to hire Fox. That has not happened.

More questions

At the Aug. 6 meeting, Ringelberg said the board received additional information regarding Fox, obtained additional records from her time as Ionia County administrator acquired through the Freedom of Information Act, and several Ionia County residents made phone calls to the township that raised questions about Fox. Ringelberg passed those callers to the township's outside attorney for follow up.

Ringelberg said Fox should have the chance to respond to those questions.

The board voted 4 to 1 to ask Fox to return to be interviewed by the board and to include township attorney Ron Bultje in all discussions. Trustee Mike Koeman dissented.

"We have to do what's right for the township," said Treasurer Jim Johnson.

Koeman then moved to hire Fox immediately and despite having already voted to call Fox back for an interview, Clerk Jim Delaney seconded the motion. Koeman's motion failed to pass.

Fox was not at the Aug. 6 meeting.

Fox is currently executive assistant to the mayor of the City of Kentwood. After interviews with a total of four applicants from 45 overall submissions, the Laketown Township board unanimously chose to interview Fox a second time, while continuing to keep Howard Fink, manager of Park Township, and David Grumney, Graafschap Fire Department captain, as finalists.

Longtime Manager Al Meshkin retired earlier this year. After finalists for the manager position declined offers in January, the board put the search on hold while members received training on the manager-council form of government from an outside firm and learned to better work together.

On June 11, the board unanimously agreed to begin advertising the full-time manager position.

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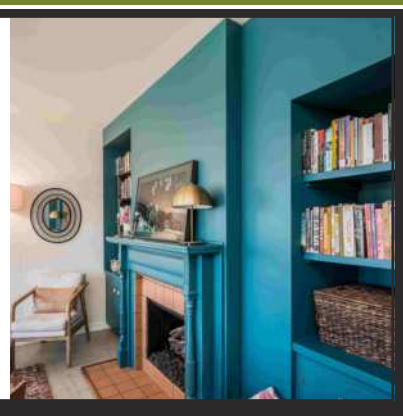
110 W. Allegan St.
(M-89) Otsego, MI
269.377.6645
www.skpdesign.com
Sondra@skpdesign.com



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Community collaboration aims to bring free tax assistance back

By Pam Armstrong & Gari Voss

The Allegan District Library is excited to announce a new partnership with the Heart of West Michigan United Way to recruit dedicated volunteers for the upcoming Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. This collaboration aims to re-establish free tax preparation services at the District Library for the 2026 tax season, providing crucial support to qualifying individuals and families in the Allegan community. But success depends on having a large enough pool of volunteers.

The VITA program offers free tax preparation assistance to low-to-moderate income individuals, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and limited English-speaking taxpayers. By providing this service, VITA volunteers help ensure that community members receive all eligible tax credits and deductions, fostering financial stability and empowering individuals.

"We are thrilled to work with the Heart of West Michigan United Way to bring the VITA program back to the Allegan District Library," said Pamela Armstrong, Director of the Allegan District Library. "This service is incredibly valuable, and we believe it will have a significantly positive impact on the financial well-being of our patrons. We encourage anyone interested in making a tangible difference in our community to consider becoming a VITA volunteer."

The key to success depends upon the volunteers. Commitments from volunteers are needed by October 10, 2025, to secure the Allegan District Library as a VITA site for the upcoming tax season. Sign up to become a volunteer at https://www.hwmuw.org/vita.

"The Heart of West Michigan United Way is instrumental in supporting VITA programs across West Michigan, while providing training, resources, and oversight," explained Brenda Brame, Program Manager, VITA, Heart of West Michigan United Way.

A variety of VITA positions can be filled according to a volunteer's comfort level.

Tax Preparers: No prior tax experience is required; comprehensive IRS-certified training is provided.

Greeters/Intake Specialists: Assist taxpayers with paperwork and ensure they have all necessary documents.

Interpreters: Provide language assistance for non-English speaking taxpayers.

This is a flexible volunteer opportunity, with training and various shifts available during the tax season (typically January through April). Volunteers gain valuable skills, meet new people, and directly contribute to their community's economic health.

An information session will be scheduled for prospective volunteers in the coming months to provide a deeper dive into the program and volunteer roles. Individuals interested in volunteering are invited to learn more and sign up to become a volunteer at https://www.hwmuw.org/vita.

For specific questions, please contact Brenda Brame at bbrame@hwmuw.org.

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

Mass homicides, whether knifings, shootings, or vehicles - has been in the news again. A week or so Mr. Wilcox wrote about one in Traverse City. This week's question: Are you concerned it could happen here?

-Man at a farmer's market on M-89: "Nah, I'm not worried, but sure, I guess it could happen here. The chances are really small. People get scared over too many things that won't happen."

-Woman with him: "I always feel safe when I'm with my husband." Slyly rolls her eyes. I didn't ask.

-Couple near the Fennville hardware store: Man: "Yeah, I guess it could happen, but it won't because the odds are against it. We come here once in a while, and what are the chances somebody's going to shoot up the place just at that time?" Woman: "I think about it. I hope you're right." Nods toward her husband.

-Young man near the Allegan Public Library; Snorts, "You gotta be kidding me, dude. Nothing's going to happen around here. It's just the president's sneaky way of making this a police state, that's all."

-Man near the Huntington Bank: "No, I'm not worried about it. It's not like Allegan is some big city or nothing like that. People get scared of their own shadow."

-Woman, same location: "I heard what that man said, and he's wrong. Something awful could happen here, just the same as anywhere else. We gotta keep our eyes open. You see something, you say something."

-Couple near the Allegan County News; Woman: "Mike's [editor and publisher of the Wilcox papers] right! If it can happen in Traverse [City] it's just as likely it could happen here. We keep a close eye on things." Man: "That's right. It could happen here and we've got to be ready."

-Man near the Allegan City Hall: "I don't know what to think. I really don't. I thought Trump was going to do a better job of protecting us, but so far, he hasn't done much. I guess it's pretty much up to us to keep safe."

-Man near the Allegan Post Office: "I used to believe a lot in this country, but not no more, not now. Like that young fellow who worked for Musk who got roughed up, and then the soldiers that were shot, right on their own base."

The Allegan County News & Union Enterprise

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Otsego Marching Band uses camp to prepare for upcoming season

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Members of the Otsego Marching Band perform during band camp, which took place the week of Aug. 4. (Photo provided)

This fall, the Otsego marching band will once again delight fans at home football games on Friday nights and perform at various competitions on Saturdays.

That process began in earnest the week of Aug. 4, as Otsego band director Mitch Piersma spearheaded the program's annual band camp.

The steamy August weather provided some challenges, which resulted in plenty of water breaks and indoor practices.

"The heat changed some of our plans, but as always, our kids persevered and gave a great band camp finale performance for the parents and friends on our final night," Piersma said. "They sound really good for this early in the year, but we still have more than half of the drill charts to learn."

Piersma was impressed by this year's group of freshmen.

"The freshmen class has some really good players," he said. "They are going to do some great things while in the Otsego Marching Band."

As always, band camp will set the tone for the upcoming marching-band season.

"We want the students to be able to understand how to set drill, memorize their music and learn to move and play together as one group," Piersma said. "One goal is to make it so the students think for themselves and learn new charts using skills they were taught during band camp.

"We also want the students to bond and make friends. Band is a family."

This year's program for the Otsego Marching Band is called "Sky Blue: Part 3 of the Blue Trilogy."

Included selections are "Dreamland" by Glass Animals; "Jupiter" and "Venus" from "The Planets" by Gustav Holst; "Mr. Blue Sky" by the Electric Light Orchestra; and "Sky Full of Stars" by Coldplay.

"This is a more serious show, but we do have some funny moments and some great props," Piersma said.

Those props will include clouds.

"We will be in the clouds so to speak, as we will have cloud props that light up on the field," Piersma said. "We have outstanding soloists and a variety of instruments playing them. The percussion feature is going to be another barn burner and will show off our very talented front ensemble and drum line.

"And our color guard has been working once a week for the entire summer."

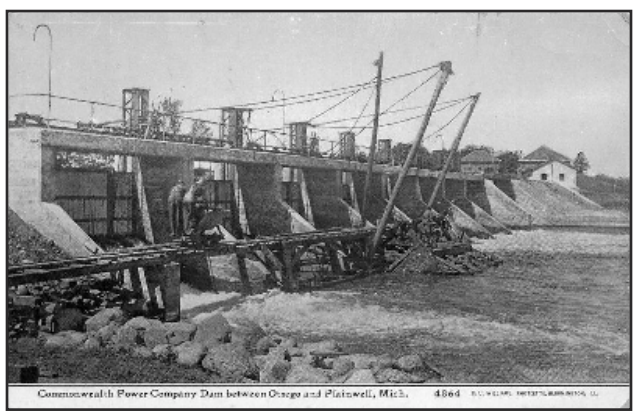
This year's band features 107 members, which is the most since 2016.

"I am looking forward to seeing what this group can do," Piersma said.

Piersma is also looking forward to working with his staff members again this year.

"My marching band staff is the best," he said. "They help write our visual and percussion work for the students as well as teach them and give up hours of their own time."

This year's competitions for the Otsego Marching Band will be at Portage Central, Vicksburg, Hastings, Kenowa Hills and the West Shore Invitational in Muskegon.



Dam ■ from Page A1

Director Anne Vogel. "Supported by a $1.9 million grant from the EPA, this success underscores the power of partnership and collaboration in preserving these vital environmental, recreational and economic resources."

Mills agreed.

"The river is already telling us this was the right move," he said. "We're seeing several fish species returning to the water, osprey overhead and natural river processes reestablishing themselves. It's incredibly rewarding to see how science, smart investment and cross-agency collaboration are bringing Michigan's rivers back to life."

The restoration of this stretch of the Kalamazoo River brings the state and partners closer to the long-term goal of returning 47 miles of river—from Morrow Dam to Lake Allegan—to a more natural, healthier condition.

In addition to ecological benefits, this work supports vibrant outdoor recreation opportunities such as paddling, fishing and wildlife viewing, all of which contribute to local tourism and the regional economy.

City of Otsego deals with cat issue

By Aaron Mitchell
Otsego City Manager

You may have realized that the City of Otsego has a growing cat problem.

Not unlike many small towns in 2025, the number of stray cats found in all neighborhoods have drastically increased from previous years. This is currently a significant problem.

However, I think if we all work together, we will be able to find a resolution to start stemming the tide and curb the feral cat population.

How did we get here?

I think the biggest cause is societal. As a whole, today's society is much more likely to abandon their cats and let them roam free if they either cannot afford them or if they are moving and they are not welcome at their new residence than past generations.

On top of that the largest cat populations in the City came from the former RockTenn property, that is not a coincidence. When those buildings were demolished, the cats who resided in the old buildings scattered and found new homes.

Other cats also breed with other strays and cat populations grow quickly in all neighborhoods.

Why are cats a problem?

The increase in the cat population has led to an infestation in some properties by living in sheds or garages causing damage. Wherever the cats pee they leave a lasting smell that is offensive to everyone.

They will often treat public places such as parks as a litter box as well. They get into garbage and anything else left outside. They also spread disease amongst other cats and animals.

This is not good for our residents, City park visitors or the cats. Trying to fix this problem is not simple. But it is important that we do all that we can to solve it.

What has the City done and going to be doing to help this situation?

* We have reviewed ordinance options. Only to realize that an ordinance cannot fix this problem. The cats are stray and not possessed by anyone.

* After contacting Allegan County Animal Control about removing the strays, we were told they already have too many cats. So, they cannot help us out.

* Over the winter we had a volunteer who caught the cats and brought them to a vet who agreed to spay/neuter them. They were able to sterilize 50-plus cats! The idea was to help prevent the population from continuing to grow and check the health of the cats. However, that is clearly not enough.

* We are aggressively seeking to get long grass cut and secure any and all buildings that could be housing cats. This includes vacant properties.

* We are allowing for anyone willing to live trap the cats to do so on public property in the troublesome neighborhoods.

* We are seeking deterrents to keep the cats out of our parks.

* We are keeping our minds open to options to help this consistent problem.

What can residents do to help?

There are a handful of simple things that can make a real difference. The goal should be for cats to find a permanent home that can safely provide them a habitat to survive.

City streets are not a safe environment. The woods and fields out in the township would be the safest habitats in the area.

A few small changes in our behavior can help make a community difference by helping to control the cat population and directing the cats to a better environment. Those include:

* Don't feed stray cats. Even as innocent as it may seem, this is what is drawing more and more cats to our neighborhoods. This is the hardest and the most important behavior change.

* Keep your domesticated cats inside your house. It is not uncommon for cats to be let out at night. That leads to the attraction of additional cats and breeding.

* Keep buildings secure and grass cut. Cats seek out any possible locations to reside and that includes buildings with openings and yards with long grass.

We understand this is a difficult problem to solve. I wish it was as easy as buying a garbage bag full of catnip and lead all of the cats out into the township, but I was told that would not work.

We will stay on top of this issue and we hope that we can see marked improvement in the coming months.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 5 p.m. at the Otsego District Public Library, 401 Dix Street, Otsego, Michigan, the Library Board of the Otsego District Public Library will hold a public hearing to consider the Library's proposed budget for the period from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

THE BOARD MAY NOT ADOPT ITS PROPOSED BUDGET UNTIL AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING. A COPY OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS AT THE LIBRARY, 401 DIX STREET, OTSEGO, MICHIGAN. ALL INTERESTED PARTIES WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED BUDGET.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Otsego District Public Library Board.

OTSEGO DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Otsego Township

Planning Commission
Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to PA 110 of 2006, the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, the Otsego Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Otsego Township Hall, 400 N. 16th Street, Otsego, MI 49078.

The following items will be heard, considered, and possibly have action taken upon them:

1. A request for special use permit from Sami W. Al Jallad of New Leaf Management, LLC, owner of 1565 Woodlea Drive, also known as Permanent Parcel 03-17-560-014-00, to increase capacity of an existing adult foster care home from a maximum of six (6) individuals to exceed said limit within the R-2 Medium Density Single-family Residential District, per Section 8.03(o) of the Otsego Township Zoning Ordinance.
2. A request for site plan review and special use permit from High Grade, LLC, applicant on behalf of 2190 Jefferson, LLC and 2264 104th Ave, LLC, owner of 2264 104th Avenue, also known collectively as Permanent Parcels 03-17-020-014-50, 03-17-029-006-10, 03-17-030-001-10, and 03-17-030-002-00, to establish a mineral extraction operation within the AG Agricultural and Rural Estate District, per Section 6.03(p) of the Otsego Township Zoning Ordinance.
3. Any other such business that comes duly before the Planning Commission.

A copy of agenda items and draft documents is available for viewing during office hours at the above noted address. Members of the public are invited and encouraged to participate in all public hearings and open meetings within the Township.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Otsego Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon five (5) days written notice to the Township Clerk at PO Box 257, Otsego, MI 49078, by phone at 269-694-9434, or by email to jcolin@otsegotownship.org.

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Saugatuck assistant football coach Anthony Grech leads the team through a workout. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Area football teams begin ramping up for 2025 season

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

High school football players and coaches from Allegan County joined their counterparts across the state in preparing for the upcoming season on Monday, Aug. 11.

That was the first day official practice was allowed by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, with the first several days dedicated to conditioning. Pads will be allowed later in the week.

The season kicks off for seven of the nine county teams on Thursday, Aug. 28, with three of those teams hosting games.

Fennville is at home against Lawrence, Martin is at home against Mendon and Saugatuck is home against Buchanan.

Hamilton (at St, Johns), Hopkins (at Fremont), Otsego (at Battle Creek Pennfield) and Wayland (at Lansing Waverly) will open on the road.

The other two county teams—Allegan and Plainwell—will renew acquaintances on Friday, Aug. 29, as the Trojans host the Tigers.

This will be the first gridiron meeting between those teams since 2020, which was Allegan's final year in the Wolverine Conference before making the move to the SAC.

All games from Week 1 are slated for 7 p.m. kickoff times, as is the case throughout the season.

Otsego players go through a tackling drill as they prepare for the start of the upcoming season. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Players from Plainwell run through a drill during the first day of practice. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Top Senior Student-Athletes: Plainwell

Adin Young

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

During his time at Plainwell High School, 2025 graduate Adin Young could be found on the football field in the fall, on the wrestling mats in the winter and on the track in the spring.

And while he enjoyed each of the sports in which he participated, one stood out above the rest.

"My favorite sport is wrestling," he said. "I like it so much because it built my character and personality into the wonderful man I am today."

Young had his share of success on the mats.

As a junior, he helped Plainwell advance to the Division 2 team state semifinals at Wings Arena in Kalamazoo. A few weeks after that, he placed third in the 285-pound weight class at the Division 2 individual state finals at Ford Field.

It was that third-place showing that ranks as one of his favorite memories from his athletic career at Plainwell, as he called it "my proudest moment."

"I also have some great memories of amazing laughs with my friends and coaches that I'll always remember," he said.

For his performance in wrestling and his other sports, Young received the coveted Streidl Senior Athlete of the Year Award.

Named in honor of legendary Plainwell coach Jack Streidl—for whom the football stadium is also named—the award is a meaningful one for its recipients.

"It's really one of the greatest accomplishment that I have so far in my life," Young said of being selected for the Streidl Award. "It's something that I will be proud of until the end of my days."

While he ended up thoroughly enjoying his time participating in athletics, Young said is initial foray into sports wasn't necessarily his choice.

Rather, he received some encouragement from his dad.

"My dad forced me to do wrestling when I was four," he said.

It didn't take long for Young to realize that he had a passion for that sport and sports in general, both for the competition and for the connections he made along the way.

"I really enjoy all the amazing friendships I've made through the years because of my involvement in sports," he said.

Young picked up football in seventh grade, and added track to his resume in high school.

"Sports taught me a lot," he said. "For example, I learned how to be respectful, responsible and disciplined."

Someone who helped Young learn those lessons was Luke Rizzo, his youth wrestling coach.

"Coach Rizzo helped me develop the mentality of just keep going no matter what. He really helped me with my resilience."

In addition to sports, Young was also active in Peer Assistant Listeners (PALs), Links, Multicultural Club and Student Athletic Leadership Team (SALT). He was also vice president of the Plainwell chapter of the National Honor Society.

"It was a great honor attend Plainwell High School, to represent Plainwell and to bring pride to my favorite home," he said. "I would love to do it all again."

With his career at Plainwell High School now behind him, Young is looking forward to attending Western Michigan University. He plans to study paper engineering along with wrestling on the school's club team.

"I'd like to help make wrestling into an actual competitive team," he said.

Young also has some words of advice for the younger generation of student-athletes.

"I would just like to tell them to stay humble and to do everything that you can," he said.

Adin Young

Adin Young had a stellar wrestling career for Plainwell, placing third at 285 pounds at the State Finals as a junior. (Photo provided)

Several changes made by MHSAA for fall sports

EAST LANSING—A revised schedule for Lower Peninsula Boys Tennis Finals was among the most significant changes to fall sports. Practices for the fall began on Monday, Aug. 11, for an anticipated 100,000 high school athletes at Michigan High School Athletic Association member schools.

The fall season includes the most played sports for both boys and girls, with 6,210 football players and 19,679 girls volleyball players competed during the Fall 2024 season. Teams in those sports were joined by competitors in girls and boys cross country, Lower Peninsula g irls golf, boys soccer, Lower Peninsula girls swimming & diving, and Lower Peninsula boys tennis in beginning practice.

Competition can begin Aug. 15 for cross country, field hockey, golf, soccer and tennis, Aug. 20 for swimming & diving and volleyball and Aug. 28 for varsity football.

To conclude their season, Lower Peninsula boys tennis teams will begin a pilot program showcasing Finals for all four divisions at the same location—Midland Tennis Center—over a two-week period.

Division 4 will begin play with its two-day event Oct. 15 and 16, followed by Division 1 on Oct. 17 and 18, Division 2 on Oct. 22 and 23 and Division 3 played Oct. 24 and 25.

Also in Lower Peninsula boys tennis—and girls tennis in the spring—a Finals qualification change will allow for teams that finish third at their Regionals to advance to the season-ending tournament as well, but only in postseason divisions where there are six Regionals. That will be all four boys divisions this fall.

The 11-Player Football Finals at Ford Field will be played this fall over a three-day period, with Division 8, 4, 6 and 2 games on Friday, Nov. 28, and Division 7, 3, 5 and 1 games played Sunday, Nov. 30. This is to accommodate Michigan State's game against Maryland on Nov. 29 at Ford Field.

Two more changes affecting football playoffs will be noticeable this fall.

For the first time, 8-Player Semifinals will be played at neutral sites. Previously, the team with the highest playoff-point average continued to host during that round.

Also, teams that forfeit games will no longer receive playoff-point average strength-of-schedule bonus points from those opponents to which they forfeited.

A pair of changes in boys soccer this fall will address sportsmanship.

The first allows game officials to take action against a team's head coach in addition to any cautions or ejections issues to players and personnel in that team's bench area. This makes the head coach more accountable for behavior on the sideline.

The second change allows for only the team captain to speak with an official during the breaks between periods (halftime and during overtime), unless another coach, player, etc., is summoned by the official. The penalty will be a yellow card to offending individuals.

A few more game-action rules changes will be quickly noticeable to participants and spectators.

* In volleyball, multiple contacts by one player attempting to play the ball will now be allowed on second contact if the next contact is by a teammate on the same side of the net.

* In swimming & diving, backstroke ledges will be permitted in pools that maintain a 6-foot water depth. If used in competition, identical ledges must be provided by the host team for all lanes, although individual swimmers are not required to use them.

* Also in swimming & diving – during relay exchanges – second, third and fourth swimmers must have one foot stationary at the front edge of the deck. The remainder of their bodies may be in motion prior to the finish of the incoming swimmer.

* In football, when a forward fumble goes out of bounds, the ball will now be spotted where the fumble occurred instead of where the ball crossed the sideline.

The 2025 Fall campaign culminates with postseason tournaments beginning with the Upper Peninsula Girls Tennis Finals during the week of Sept. 29 and wrapping up with the 11-Player Football Finals on Nov. 28 and 30. Here is a complete list of fall tournament dates:

Cross Country
L.P. Regionals – Oct. 24 or 25
L.P. Finals – Nov. 1

11-Player Football
Selection Sunday – Oct. 26
District Semifinals – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1
District Finals – Nov. 7 or 8
Regional Finals – Nov. 14 or 15
Semifinals – Nov. 22
Finals – Nov. 28 and 30

8-Player Football
Selection Sunday – Oct. 26
Regional Semifinals – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1
Regional Finals – Nov. 7 or 8
Semifinals – Nov. 15
Finals – Nov. 22

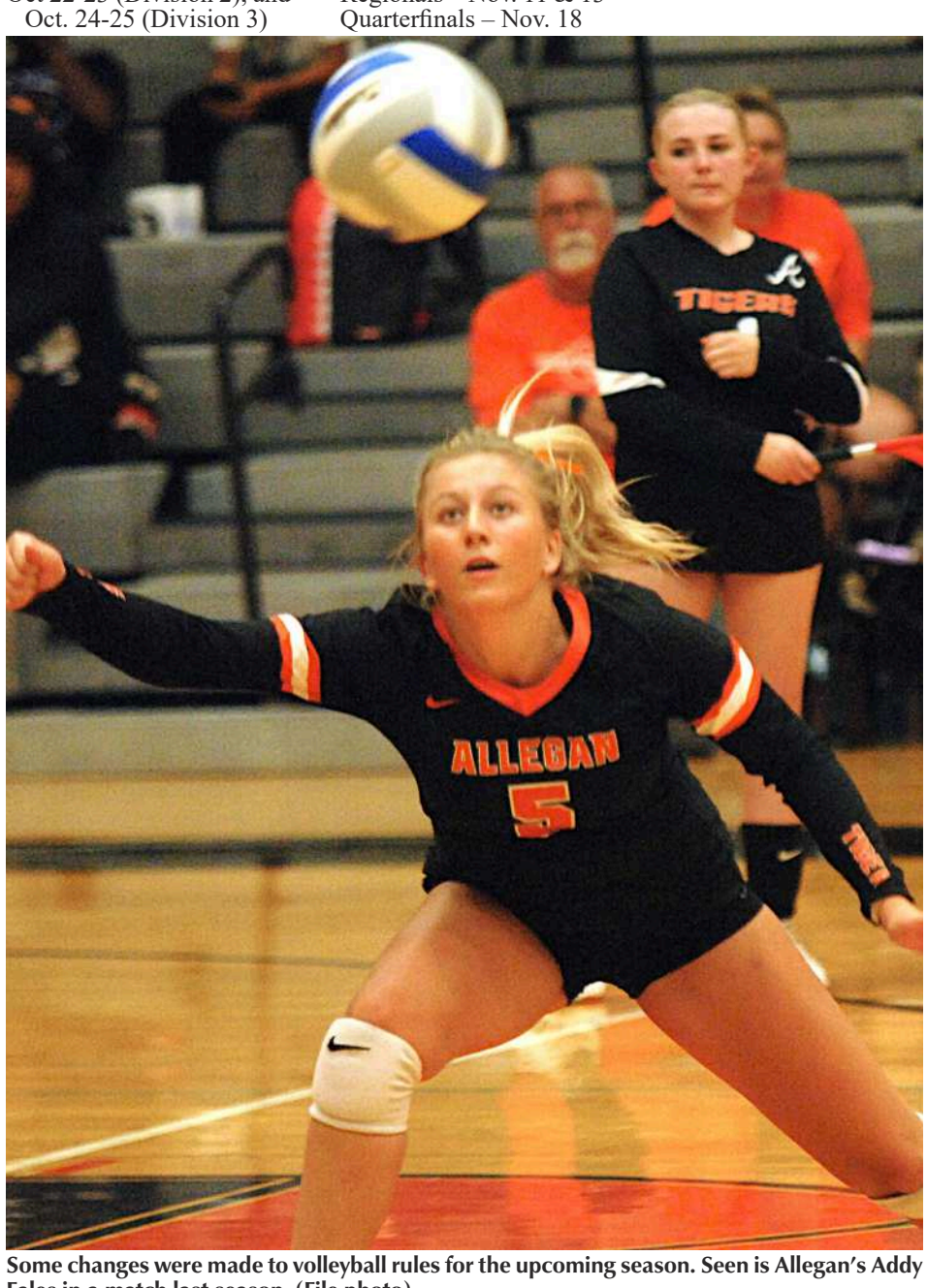
L.P. Girls Golf
Regionals – Oct. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or 11
Finals – Oct. 17-18

Boys Soccer
Districts – Oct. 8-18
Regionals – Oct. 21-25
Semifinals – Oct. 29
Finals – Nov. 1

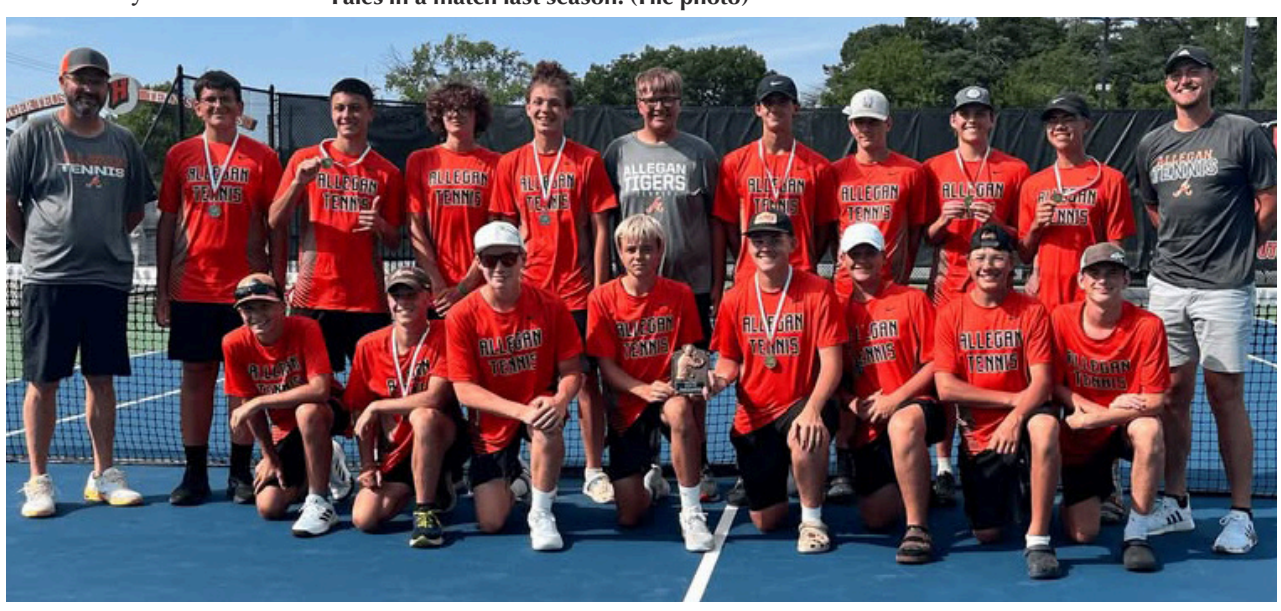
L.P. Girls Swimming & Diving
Diving Regionals – Nov. 13
Swimming/Diving Finals – Nov. 21-22

Tennis
U.P. Girls Finals – Oct. 1, 2, 3, or 4
L.P. Boys Regionals – Oct. 8, 9, 10, or 11
L.P. Boys Finals – Oct. 15-16 (Division 4), Oct. 17-18 (Division 1), Oct 22-23 (Division 2), and Oct. 24-25 (Division 3)

Girls Volleyball
Districts – Nov. 3-8
Regionals – Nov. 11 & 13
Quarterfinals – Nov. 18
Semifinals – Nov. 20-21
Finals – Nov. 22



Some changes were made to volleyball rules for the upcoming season. Seen is Allegan's Addy Fales in a match last season. (File photo)



The Allegan tennis team qualified for the Division 4 State Finals last year. This year, for the first time, the Finals for all four divisions will be held at the same site. (File photo)

Fewer MHSAA schools charging fees to participate

The annual Michigan High School Athletic Association participation fee survey saw record response for the 2024-25 school year and revealed good news as the percentage of member high schools charging student-athletes to play sports remained consistent with lowered post-pandemic levels.

Of the 720 schools (95 percent of membership) which responded to the most recent survey, only 40 percent of MHSAA member high schools (286) charged participation fees in 2024-25 – consistent with the rates between 40-41 percent revealed annually by the survey the previous four school years after the COVID-19 pandemic struck during the late winter and spring of 2020. Prior to the pandemic, a high of 57 percent of member schools charged participation fees in 2013-14, and 48 percent of high schools required pay-to-play in 2019-20.

The MHSAA began conducting the participation fee survey with the 2003-04 school year. For the purposes of the survey, a participation fee is anything $20 or more regardless of what the school called the charge – registration fee, athletic fee, etc.

Class A schools, as has been the trend, made up the largest group charging fees in 2024-25, with 53 percent of respondents doing so. Class B schools followed, with 40 percent charging fees, while 34 percent of Class C schools and 32 percent of Class D schools also charged for participation.

A standardized fee for each team on which a student-athlete participates – regardless of the number of teams – has remained the norm over the history of the MHSAA's survey, and 43 percent of schools charging a fee during 2024-25 did so in this way. That was followed by 34 percent of responding schools charging a one-time standardized fee and 17 percent assessing fees based on tiers of the number of sports a student-athlete plays (for example, charging a larger fee for the first team and less for additional sports).

For 2024-25, the median maximum amount a school charged per student-athlete for the school year was $150, and the median annual maximum charged per family was $370. For schools charging student-athletes a one-time fee to cover all sports played, the median was $125. For schools charging a fee per sport, the median was $100 for each team.

The survey for 2024-25 and surveys from previous years can be found on the MHSAA Website at www.mhsaa.com by click-ing on Schools -- Administrators – Pay-To-Play Survey.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Wing's Home - FULL
Saturday, July 26
Playing on all 27 holes.
Open play available after 2:30 p.m.
Red, White & Blue
27-Hole event
Sunday, August 3
Tee-times start at 8 am
Sherwood's Cove
Saturday, August 16
9 a.m. Shotgun Start
THE 2025 SEASON SPECIAL
18 Holes with Cart
Mon-Thurs before Noon - $36
www.cheshirehills.com
• Driving Range • Pro Shop • Golf Lessons • Leagues
• Golf Outings • Banquets • Restaurant • Sports Bar
Cheshire Hills
GOLF COURSE
3829 102nd Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
(269)673-2882
27 Holes of Natural Beauty at an Affordable Price

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Aug. 14, 1950

Ex-Alleganite trains as jet fighter pilot: Among the young men completing the basic phase of Air Force pilot training at Perrin Air Force Base, Sherman, Texas, August 4, was aviation cadet George R. Yocum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wavel S. Yocum, Carson City.

Yocum followed a vigorous training program during this phase of his pilot training. During the seven-month period, he received approximately 130 hours of dual and solo time in the North American T-6 "Texan." This 130 hours consisted of diversified flying training, such as instrument flying, formation night flying, basic air work, acrobatics and cross country.

Aug. 14, 1975

Doornhaags enjoy horse and buggy daze: Bill and Bobbie Doornhaag have a date to go for a buggy ride.

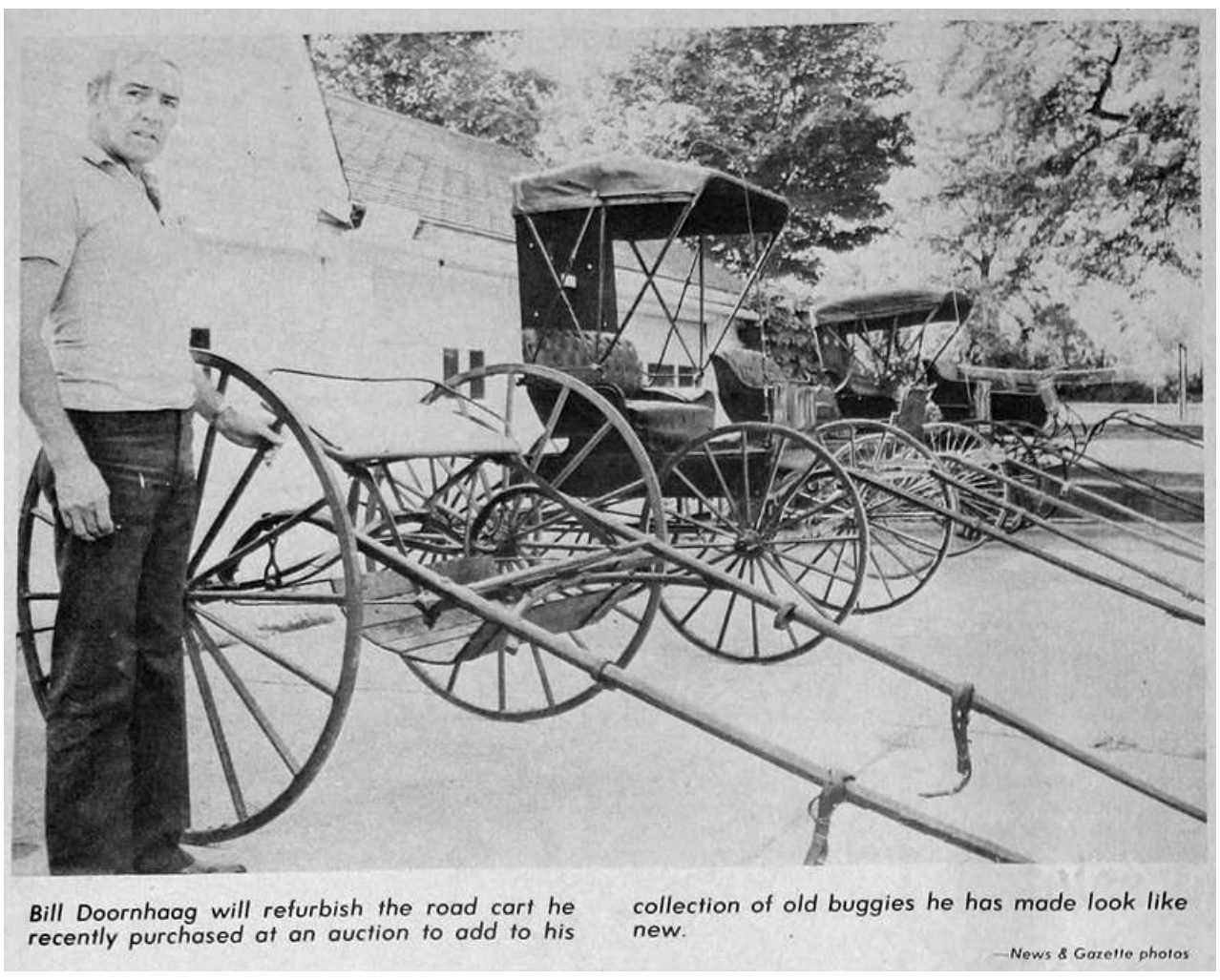
The rural Allegan couple have found a more gentle driving horse to harness up to their choice of a road cart, one of the coal box road wagons, or if it snows, a sleigh ride in a beautiful red velvet upholstered cutter.

Bill Dorrhaag, a semi-retired carpenter, has a hobby of refurnishing old buggies. He will soon start working on a road cart he and Bobbie recently purchased at an auction in Delton.

He plans to sandblast the metal parts of the buggy, chrome the beautiful big spoke wheels and have it reupholstered in Goshen, Ind., by Amish tradesmen who have reupholstered his other buggies.

The cart, Bill said, was made by McLaughlin Carriages in Brockville, Canada, a company that made its last horse-drawn carriage in 1906.

One of the carts, made by Pontiac Springs and Wagon Works, dates back to the 1880s and now sports a new black Naugahyde convertible top with a snap flap in case there's a change in the weather.



Bill Doornhaag will refurbish the road cart he recently purchased at an auction to add to his collection of old buggies he has made look like new.

—News & Gazette photos

Aug. 17, 2000

Miracle baby: Mother/daughter bons strengthen over years: When Deb Waigand of Allegan went into labor little more than 21 years ago, her excitement turned to fear.

She and her husband, Dennis, were expecting twins, but she was only six months along. The babies were coming much too early. So the Waigands prayed for a miracle.

At Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, the doctors delayed Deb's delivery for 24 hours, giving the babies; lungs as much time as possible to develop. June 28, 1979, Tonya Lynn and Sonja Leah were born.

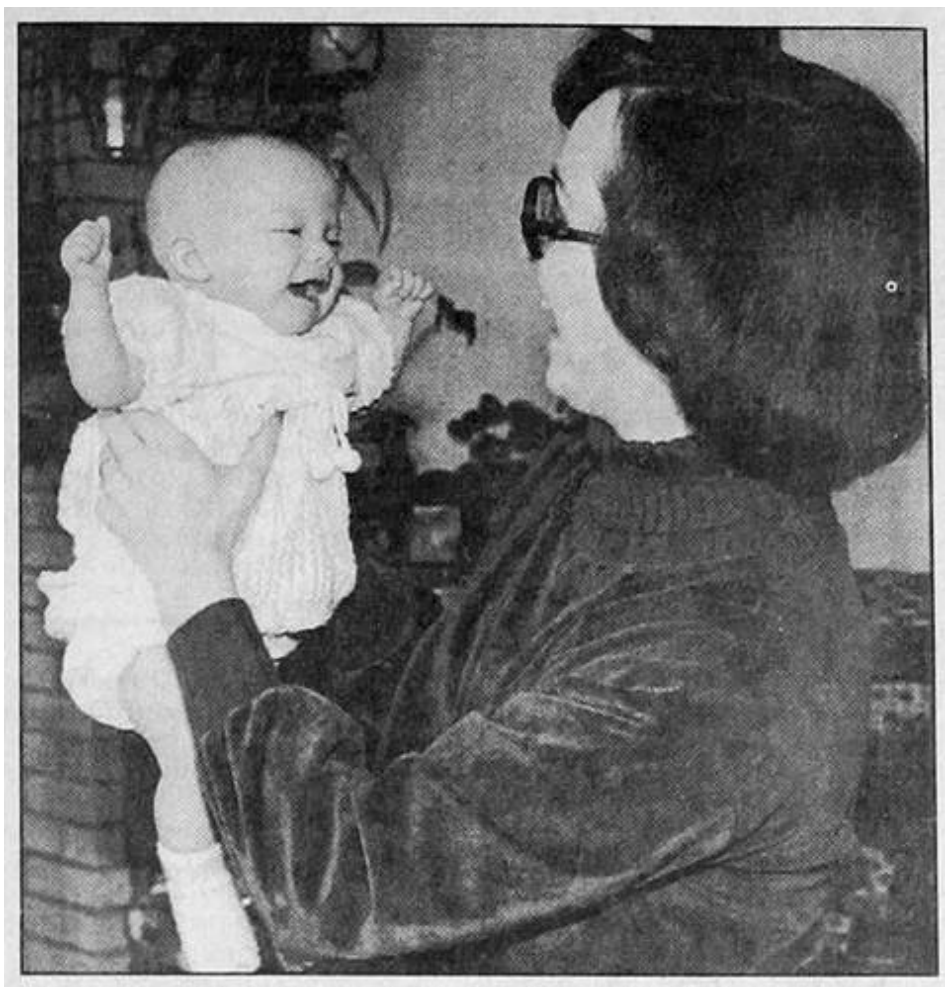
Sonja weighed only one pound, 12 ounces. She lived 32 hours before she passed away from a stroke, a common cause of death in premature babies, Deb said.

Tiny Tonya weighed only one pound, 10 ounces. For a while, she had to breathe with a ventilator because her lungs were too small and she was too weak to breathe on her own.

For months, Deb traveled to Kalamazoo to see her baby and deliver milk. Tonya was fed one teaspoon every three hours.

Despite the odds, on Oct. 23, the Waigands' tiny "miracle baby" made it out of the hospital, nearly five months after she was born. She weighed four pounds, four ounces.

Today, Tonya, now 21, lives the healthy life of a college student. She attends Kalamazoo Valley Community College, where she is combining international studies with psychology.



Deb Waigand of Allegan holds her 10-month-old daughter, Tonya, who was born three months premature in 1979 and weighed less than two pounds at birth. Even though Tonya was nearly a year old in this photo, she looked not much bigger than a newborn. (Photo provided)

Aug. 13, 2020

Police save ten who jumped from bridge: A potentially tragic situation was averted thanks to the actions of a pair of officers from the Otsego Police Department.

On the evening of Sunday, Aug. 9, Otsego officers Brady Roberts and Don McGehee rescued a 14-year-old girl who tried to commit suicide by jumping into the Kalamazoo River from the Farmer St. Bridge in downtown Otsego.

An Allegan County Sheriff's deputy was also on scene.

Otsego police chief Brad Misner praised the efforts of the officers.

"This could have turned out really badly, but these officers stepped up and did a great job to make sure that girl was brought to safety," he said.

The situation began shortly before 7 p.m. when the girl jumped out of a moving car being driven by her mother. The mother stopped the car and chased after the girl, only to lose sight of her after she ran down an ally.

The women then called the police to report her daughter as a runaway.

Soon after, McGehee was preparing to leave for home at the end of his shift when he witnessed the girl jumping into the river.

"Officer McGehee called dispatch and the night officer, Officer Roberts, responded right away along with a deputy from the Allegan County Sheriff's Department," Misner said.

The officers followed the girl down the river and found her standing on a sandbar.

"Officer Roberts yelled for her to swim to shore, but she said she couldn't," Misner said. "So, he threw a rescue rope to her and they were able to pull out of the river and onto the bank."

The girl, from Otsego, suffered only minor injuries.

"I'm just so glad they were able to save her," Misner said. "This is a young girl who needs some help and hopefully she'll be able to get that now."

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Deaths

July 17, 2025

ROGER DUANE DIXON, 83, Hopkins Twp.

July 24, 2025

DIANE KAY VANSLAGER, 78, Allegan Twp.

July 25, 2025

BENJAMIN ALBERT WOOD JR, 62, Allegan

July 26, 2025

WILLARD HENRY BRINK, 96, Fillmore Twp.

RAYMOND LEROY HARRIS, 93, Allegan Twp.

NANCY ANN TAYLOR, 73, Holland

July 27, 2025

CLAUDIA AROE STOVER, 78, Laketown Twp.

July 28, 2025

TREVOR ALLEN ELLIS, 46, Allegan

July 29, 2025

PAULINO ORTIZ 82, Holland

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between July 29 and Aug. 6:

PATRICK WILLIAM VANDERZWAAG, Fennville, and **MELANIE GRACE VELDERMAN**, Allegan

JUSTICE TYLER SAUNDERS, Allegan, and **MARISA GONZALEZ**, Allegan

KIEFER WAYNE BRENNER, Hamilton, and **ALEXIS KAY BURT**, Hamilton

DIANNE ELIZABETH LENGES, Holland, and **LARRY WAYNE KOZLOWSKI JR**, Holland

CHRISTA JOANN LAMBERT, Allegan, and **SULLIVAN DAVID MILLER**, Kalamazoo

ALYCIA MAE CROWNER, Wayland, and **HUNTER WILLIAM PHILLIPS**, Wwayland

SHANNON MARIE FROEBER, Hamilton, and **WILLIAM J OWEN**, Hamilton

ANTONIO KENNETH DASCANIO, Wayland, and **LATRICE LYNEE JONES**, Wayland

MERRY KATELYN HUGHES, Plainwell, and **TROY LEE NELSON**, Kalamazoo

SAVANNAH JANE MOORE, Grand Rapids, and **SAMUEL LAWRENCE BADGER**, Plainwell

HANNAH RAE SWEERS, Wayland, and **BRANDON PAUL VILLARREAL**, Wayland

MEGAN MARIE WALKOWSKI, Pullman, and **JOSHUA MICHAEL KING**, Pullman

EMILY ROSE GRAY, Plainwell, and **CHASE MATTHEW DROBNY**, Plainwell

MICHAEL JOHN BAAS, Dorr, and **MCKENNA LEE WILHELM**, Byron Center

LEAH FAITH WEDGE, Saugatuck, and **CHARLES JAMES NOZICKA JR**, Saugatuck

MADALYNN AINSLEY FRANK, Allegan, and **COLIN PHILLIP OAKLEY**, Allegan

CALE KENNETH BEMKE, Wayland, and **KAYLEIGH MICHELLE HULST**, Caledonia

SUDOKU

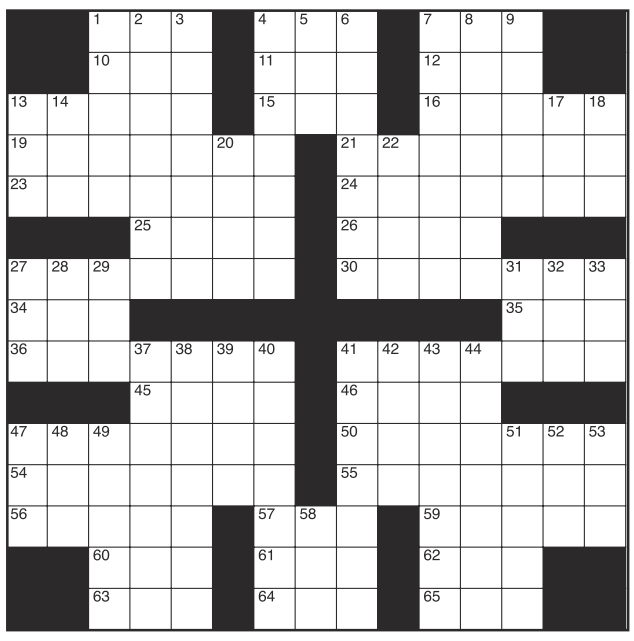
Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

	8	5		1				
		1			5			
	2					7	1	
	1		3		7	5		
						8		2
				6			7	
2					1		9	
		6						
	4		7		9		3	

(See Solution Page B7)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Auto manufacturer
4. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
7. Two-year-old sheep
10. Member of indigenous people in Asia
11. Airborne (abbr.)
12. Actress de Armas
13. Not moving
15. Cool!
16. Plants of the arum family
19. Perceptible by touch
21. Rorschach test
23. Monetary units
24. Art
25. Cardinal number
26. Dueling sword
27. Hates
30. Fixed in one place
34. Pie _ __ mode
35. Moved on foot
36. Passenger's spot on a motorcycle
41. A way through
45. 'Rule, Britannia' composer
46. Leader
47. Flowing
50. Common greetings in Arabic countries
54. Solution for all difficulties
55. Soft clothing fabric
56. Building material
57. Sea bream
59. A way to cause to be swollen
60. One and only
61. Skin color
62. Wreath
63. Nevertheless
64. They __
65. Sea eagle

CLUES DOWN

1. Policemen (French)
2. Toy dog
3. Inflamed colon disease
4. Muscular weaknesses
5. Helps little firms
6. References
7. Takes down
8. Facilitates
9. One-time empress of the Roman Empire
13. Engine additive
14. Chemistry solution
17. Written account
18. Consumed
20. Coming after all others
22. No (slang)
27. Government lawyers
28. Super Bowl winner Manning
29. Small amount
31. A way to save for your future
32. A way to travel behind
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Head pain
38. Loud lawn insect
39. Actress Hathaway
40. Boat race
41. About fish
42. Nursemaid in India
43. Marketable
44. Tinier
47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
48. Paddle
49. Oneness
51. Bitter compound
52. Not around
53. Very fast airplane
58. Swiss river

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

City of Fennville Ordinance 2025-07

Ordinance to Provide for and Regulate the Protection of Groundwater Resources in the City of Fennville

At a regular meeting of the City Commission for the City of Fennville, Michigan, held at City Hall in Fennville, Michigan, on the 4th day of August, 2025.

Present: SLITER, C. LOPEZ, MACHAN, JAMROS, LANGSTON
Absent: BOEVE, D. LOPEZ

The following Ordinance was offered by Commissioner MACHAN, and supported by Commissioner SLITER.

WHEREAS, The City of Fennville Code of Ordinances does not specifically regulate the protection of groundwater resources in the City, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Fennville recognizes the continuing importance of clean and accessible groundwater resources to the functioning of the City's drinking water treatment and distribution system:

THEREFORE, the City of Fennville ordains:

CITY OF FENNVILLE
ORDINANCE 2025-07

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND REGULATE THE PROTECTION OF GROUNDWATER RESOURCES IN THE CITY OF FENNVILLE

SECTION 1. Purpose.

The City of Fennville has determined that:

1. Certain groundwater underlying areas, including The City of Fennville, currently is, or may be in the future, the sole source of the City's drinking water supply.

2. Groundwater aquifers are integrally connected with the surface water, lakes, and streams that constitute significant public health, recreational and economic resources of the City and surrounding area.

3. Spills and discharges of hazardous substances threaten the quality of the groundwater supplies and other water related resources, posing potential public health and safety hazards and threatening economic losses.

Therefore, The City of Fennville has enacted a groundwater protection ordinance to:

1. Protect existing and potential groundwater supplies, aquifers, and groundwater recharge areas of the City.

2. Preserve the natural resources of the City and the surrounding area.

SECTION 2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

ABANDONED OPERATIONS: Any property that Is unoccupied for at least thirty (30) days and to which one or more of the following applies:
- a. Is open to casual entry;
- b. Has one or more windows boarded;
- c. Has utilities disconnected;
- d. Is unsafe for occupancy or the general public, or is a visual blight adversely affecting the general welfare of the area;
- e. Is the subject of indebtedness to the City for more than one year.

Abandoned operations do not include a property that is actively listed by a licensed real estate broker.

ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANK: A tank or combination of tanks, including the pipes that are connected to the tank or tanks or ancillary equipment containment systems, if any, which is, was, or may have been used to contain an accumulation of liquids and which has less than 10% of its volume, including the volume of the underground pipes that are connected to the tank or tanks, beneath the surface of the ground, as defined in Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids Rules, June 30, 1992.

AQUIFER: A geological formation, group of formations, or part of a formation capable of storing and yielding a significant amount of groundwater to wells and springs.

CHEMICAL ABSTRACT SERVICE (CAS) NUMBER: This is a unique number for every chemical established by a Columbus Ohio organization which indexes information published in "Chemical Abstracts" by the American Chemical Society.

CONTAMINATION: An impairment of water quality by hazardous substances, whether or not it affects the potential or intended beneficial use of water.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE: A chemical or other material that is or may become injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare, or to the environment. The term "hazardous substance" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following which are stored or generated in quantities greater than 100 kilograms (approximately 220 pounds or 25 gallons) per month, and which require site plan review under provisions of this ordinance.
- a. Hazardous Substances as defined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, Public Law 96.510, 94 State. 2767;
- b. Hazardous Waste as defined in Part 111 of the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451, as amended;
- c. Regulated Substance as defined in Part 213 of the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451, as amended;
- d. Hazardous Substance as defined in Part 201 of the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451, as amended;
- e. Polluting Material as defined in Part 5 rules promulgated pursuant to Part 31 of the of the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451, as amended;
- f. Substances for which there is a safety data sheet (SDS), as established by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the SDS cites possible health hazards for said substances;
- g. Used oil;
- h. Raw sanitary sewage;
- i. Biohazards; and
- j. Radiological materials.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY (EGLE): State agency responsible for enforcement of Michigan's environmental protection laws.

POLLUTION INCIDENT PREVENTION PLAN (PIPP): A PIPP includes a polluting material inventory, a site diagram depicting the locations of the polluting materials, emergency response procedures, and secondary-containment details. Sites are subject to Michigan's Part 5 Rules if they store oils and other polluting materials above established threshold management quantities (TMQs), which are:
- a. Salt in solid form at quantities of five (5) tons (10,000 pounds) or more.
- b. Salt in liquid form at 1,000 gallons or more.
- c. Petroleum products in an AST or container with a capacity of 660 gallons or greater or an aggregate aboveground storage capacity of 1,320 gallons.
- d. All other polluting materials specified in Part 5 that are used, stored, or otherwise managed in a discrete outdoor location, with a total storage quantity of 200 kilograms (kg) (440 pounds) or more.
- e. All other polluting materials specified in Part 5 that are used, stored, or otherwise maintained at a discrete indoor location, with a total storage quantity of 1,000 kg (2,200 pounds) or more.

PROPERTY OWNER: A person, public corporation, authority, or a political subdivision of the State or a combination of any of them, that holds an ownership interest in land, whether recorded or not. An ownership interest means ownership by one person or by different private entities, if the land is owned in joint interest or by members of the same immediate family.

PROPERLY PLUGGED ABANDONED WELL: A well that has been closed in accordance with regulations and procedures of Department of Environment, Greate Lakes and Energy (EGLE) and the local Health Department. A properly plugged abandoned well requires a permit to be brought back into service.

SECONDARY CONTAINMENT: A second tank, catchment pit, pipe, or vessel that limits and contains liquid or chemical leaking or leaching from a primary containment area; monitoring and recovery are required.

SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL AND COUNTERMEASURE (SPCC) PLAN: As detailed in 40 CFR Part 112, sites are subject to the SPCC rules if (1) they store either more than 1,320 gallons of petroleum products aboveground and (2) they present a reasonable risk to a navigable water of the United States (including via storm water and groundwater). An SPCC Plan details site oil storage, spill potential, and emergency response and notification procedures. The SPCC Plan is required to be certified by a registered Professional Engineer.

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWPPP): As detailed in 40 CFR Part 122, sites that are required to have a storm water permit are also required to have SWPPPs that detail hazardous substance exposed to storm water and controls to prevent releases.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK: A tank or combination of tanks, including underground pipes connected to the tank or tanks, which is, was, or may have been used to contain an accumulation of hazardous substances, as defined in Part 211 of the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451, as amended.

UNPLUGGED ABANDONED WELL: A well which has not been used for one year or more.

USED OIL: Any oil that had been (a) refined from crude oil, (b) used, and (c) as a result of such use contaminated by physical or chemical impurities.

WELL: As defined in the Michigan Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Code, Part 127, Act 368 of the public Acts of 1978, as amended, and rules; or a permanent or temporary opening in the surface of the earth for the purpose of removing water, or testing water quality, or measuring water characteristics, or measuring liquid recharge, or measuring liquid levels, or oil and gas exploration or production, or waste disposal, or dewatering purposes; or geothermal heat exchange purposes, or a cistern of a depth of 4 feet or more and with a top width of 12 inches or more.

WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREA (WHPA): The area which has been approved by EGLE in accordance with the State of Michigan Wellhead Protection Program, which represents the surface and subsurface area surrounding a water well or well field, which supplies a public water system, and through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the water well or well field within a ten-year time of travel. Where the line defining the Wellhead Protection Area intersects a property, the entire parcel shall be subject to this ordinance.

Section 3. Applicability.

USES SUBJECT TO SITE PLAN REVIEW: Except as provided in Section 00.208, "EXEMPTIONS AND WAIVERS", this chapter applies to all building permit request involving hazardous substances in the Wellhead Protection Area.

Section 4. Prohibitions Within Wellhead Protection Area.

For any parcel land that has a portion within the Wellhead Protection Area, the following are prohibited at any location on the parcel:
- a. Operations of a scrap and recycling yard.
- b. Operations of a State of Michigan Type II or Type III solid waste landfill.
- c. Use oil, waste oil, or similar liquid petroleum-type products for dust suppression.
- d. Unplugged abandoned wells.
- e. Drill for natural gas or petroleum, whether for exploration, production or otherwise.
- f. Improper use, storage and disposal of hazardous substances.
- g. Wells used for irrigation.

Section 5. Site Plan Review.

SITE PLAN REVIEW PROCEDURES:
Applications for projects under this section shall include the following information in addition to what may be required under the zoning ordinance
- a. Existing and proposed deed restrictions, if any.
- b. Location and outline of all existing septic tanks and drain fields.
- c. The location of any floor drains in proposed structures on the site. The point of discharge for all drains and pipes shall be specified on the site plan.
- d. The location and elevations of existing water courses and water bodies, including county drains and manmade surface drainage ways, floodplains, and regulated wetlands.
- e. Location of, public and private drinking water wells, monitoring wells, irrigation wells, test wells, wells used for industrial processes or wells that have no identified use.
- f. Inventory of hazardous substances to be stored, used or generated on-site, presented in a format acceptable to the Zoning Administrator and Fire Department (include CAS numbers).
- g. Description and drawings showing size and location for any proposed aboveground and underground storage tanks, piping lines and dispensers.
- h. Descriptions of type of operations proposed for the project and drawings showing size, location, and description of any proposed interior or exterior areas of structures for storing, using, loading or unloading of hazardous substances.
- i. Reported delineation of areas on the site which are known or suspected to be contaminated, together with a report on the status of cleanup or closure.
- j. Completion of the EGLE Environmental Permits Checklist.

Section 6. Criteria for Review.

Criteria for Review will include:

a. The project and related improvements shall be designed to protect land and water resources from pollution, including pollution of soils, groundwater, rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

b. If required by state or federal law, properties using hazardous substances are required to have a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan, a Pollution Incident Prevention Plan (PIPP), and/or a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

a. General-purpose floor drains shall be connected to a public sewer system or an on-site holding tank (not a septic system) in accordance with state, county and municipal requirements (including Industrial Pretreatment criteria), unless a groundwater discharge permit has been obtained from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. General-purpose floor drains that discharge to groundwater are generally prohibited.

b. Sites that at any time use, store or generate

continued on next page

continued from previous page

hazardous substances shall be designed to prevent spills and unpermitted discharges to air, surface of the ground, groundwater, lakes, streams, rivers or wetlands.

c. Hazardous substances stored on the site before, during, or after site construction, shall be stored in a location and manner designed to prevent spills and unpermitted discharges to air, surface of the ground, groundwater, lakes, streams, rivers, or wetlands. Any individual storage container volume of over 40 gallons or total container volumes exceeding 100 gallons that contains hazardous substances shall have secondary containment.

d. Secondary containment facilities shall be provided for aboveground storage of hazardous substances in accordance with state and federal requirements. Aboveground secondary containment facilities shall be designed and constructed so that the potentially polluting material cannot escape from the unit by gravity through sewers, drains, or other means, directly or indirectly into a sewer system, or to the waters of the State (including groundwater).

e. Unplugged abandoned wells and cisterns shall be plugged in accordance with regulations and procedures of EGLE and the County Health Department.

f. Geothermal Systems, if any.

g. Completion of the EGLE Environmental Permits Checklist.

Section 7. Professional Review of Proposed Development.

Fees in Escrow for Professional Reviews: Any application for site plan approval under this Ordinance above the following threshold may require the deposit of fees to be held in escrow in the name of the applicant. An escrow fee shall be required by the Zoning Administrator unless waived by the Planning Commission. Waiver shall be based on a written conclusion that there is no substantial information or analysis benefit to accrue as a result of the application of this Section. An escrow fee may be requested to obtain a professional review of any other project which may, in the discretion of the Zoning Administrator or Planning Commission create an identifiable and potentially negative impact on public infrastructure or services, including alterations to EGLE approved delineations of the City's Wellhead Protection Area, or on adjacent properties and because of which, professional input is desired before a decision to approve, deny or approve with conditions is made.

a. The escrow shall be used to pay professional review expenses of engineers, community planners, and any other professionals whose expertise the City values to review the proposed application and/or site plan of an applicant. Professional review will result in a report to the City indicating the extent of conformance or nonconformance with this Ordinance and to identify any problems that may create a threat to public health, safety or the general welfare. Mitigation measures or alterations to a proposed design may be identified where they would serve to lessen or eliminate identified impacts. The applicant will receive a copy of any professional review hired by the City and a copy of the statement of expenses for the professional services rendered.
b. No application for approval for which an escrow fee is requested will be processed until the escrow fee is deposited with the City Clerk. The amount of the escrow fee shall be established based on an estimate of the cost of the services to be rendered by the professionals contacted by the Building Official. The applicant is entitled to a refund of any unused escrow fees at the time a permit is either issued or denied in response to the applicant's request.
c. If actual professional review costs exceed the amount of an escrow, the applicant shall pay the balance due prior to receipt of any land use or other permit issued by the City in response to the applicant's request.
d. Disputes on the costs of professional reviews may be resolved by an arbitrator mutually satisfactory to both parties.

Section 8. Exemptions and Waivers.

A limited exclusion from this chapter is hereby authorized as follows:

a. The site plan review criteria do not apply to hazardous substances packaged for personal or household use or present in the same form and concentration as a product packaged for use by the general public.
b. The site plan review requirements of Section 5 do not apply to products held in containers with a volume of less than 220 pounds or 25 gallons and packaged for retail use.
c. The total excluded substances containing hazardous substances may not exceed the lesser of two hundred (200) gallons or one thousand (1000) pounds at any time.
d. Substances in parked or stopped vehicle in transit, provided the vehicle is stopped or parked for less than 72 hours.
e. Substances, such as gasoline or oil, in operable motor vehicles or boats if used solely for the operation of the vehicle, but not the tanker portion of a tank truck.
f. Pressurized gases in storage tanks.
g. All Parcels outside the WHPA.

Section 9. Abandoned Operations.

This section applies to residences, businesses or other operations. Those who own or control abandoned operations shall do the following:

a. Within seven (7) days of becoming an abandoned operation, take such steps as necessary to secure the site such as water, wind and ice or vandals and all other persons cannot gain access to the hazardous substances.
b. Within thirty (30) days of becoming inactive, provide to the code official and the Fire Department a document that identifies the site, the date of inactivity, the hazardous substances that exist on site, and the name, address, and telephone number of both the owner and the person in control of the site.
c. Within sixty (60) days of becoming inactive, remove all hazardous substances from the site. This does not include those substances used for heating, cooling, and/or electrical lighting.

Section 10. Enforcement.

1. Whenever the Zoning Administrator determines that a person has violated a provision of this Ordinance, the Zoning Administrator may order compliance by issuing a written Notice of Violation to the responsible person/facility.

2. The notice shall be directed to the owner or party in interest of the building in whose name the property appears on the last local tax assessment records of the City.

3. If abatement of a violation and/or restoration of affected property are required, the notice shall set forth a deadline by which such remediation or restoration must be completed. Said notice shall further advise that, should the responsible party fail to remediate or restore within the established deadline, the work may be done by the City, with the expense thereof charged to the property owner and possibly assessed as a lien against the property.

4. All notices required by Sec. 10 shall be in writing and shall be served upon the person whom they are directed personally or in lieu of personal service, may be mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the owner or party in interest at the address shown on the tax records, at least ten days before the date of the hearing described in the noticed. If any person to whom a notice is directed in not personally served, in addition to mailing the notice, a copy thereof shall be posted upon a conspicuous part of the building or structure at least 10 days prior to the hearing date.

Section 11. Exceptional/Alternative Means of Compliance.

If an owner of property within the City believes the requirements of the Ground Water Protection Ordinance pose an unreasonable burden, they may seek an exception from the strict enforcement of the ordinance. This shall be done by submitting in writing to the City alternative means that comply with the intent of the provisions of the ordinance. The material, method or work offered must be, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this Ordinance in effectiveness for the protection of ground water resources.

Section 12. Abatement/Remedial Activities by the City.

1. The City is authorized to take or contract with others to take reasonable and necessary abatement or remedial activities whenever the City determines a violation of this Ordinance has occurred and that the responsible party cannot or will not correct the violation in a timely manner, or when no known responsible party exists. The responsible party shall reimburse the City for all reasonable expenses thus incurred by the City. A lien may be placed on the property for the reimbursement of all reasonable expenses.

2. If the City desires the responsible party to reimburse it for reasonable abatement activity expenses, the City shall, within ninety (90) days of the completion of said activities, mail to that person a Notice of claim outlining the expenses incurred, including reasonable administrative costs, and the amounts thereof. The person billed shall pay said sum in full within 30 days of receipt of the claim. If the person billed desires to object to all or some of the amount sought by the City, said person may file, within the same thirty (30) day period, a written objection so stating. The City shall, within thirty (30) days of its receipt of the objection, provide an opportunity for the objecting party to present facts or arguments supporting said objection. If the City determines that some or the entire amount originally billed is appropriate, the person shall pay said sum within thirty (30) days of receipt of that determination. If the amount due is not paid, the City may cause the charges to become a special assessment against the property and shall constitute a lien on the property.

Section 13. Injunctive Relief.

If a person has violated or continues to violate the provisions of this Ordinance, the City may petition the appropriate court for injunctive relief restraining the person from activities that would create further violations, or compelling the person to perform necessary abatement or remediation.

Section 14. Violations Deemed a Civil Infraction.

Any violation of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be a Civil Infraction.

Section 15. Penalties and Costs.

Any building or structure which is erected, constructed, moved, replaced, reconstructed, raised, extended, enlarged, altered, maintained or used or any use of a lot or land which is begun, maintained or changed in violation of any term provisions of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be a nuisance per se. Any person who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects, refuses to comply with, or resists the enforcement of any term or provision of this Ordinance, or any amendment thereof, shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction subject to enforcement procedures as set forth in the Municipal Civil Infractions Ordinance adopted by the City, and a fine of fifty ($50.00) dollars, plus costs and other sanctions, for each infraction. Each day during which any violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense.

Increased civil fines may be imposed for repeated violations of the Ordinance, a repeat violation means a second or subsequent civil infraction violation committed by a person within any twelve (12) month period and for which a person admits responsibility or is determined to be responsible. The increased civil fines for repeat violations shall be as follows:

1. The fine for any offense which is a first repeat offense shall be two hundred fifty ($250.00) dollars, plus costs and other sanctions;

2. The fine for any offense, which is a second, repeat offense or any subsequent repeat offense shall be five hundred ($500.00) dollars, plus costs and other sanctions.

The Zoning Administrator, Police Department, members of any other law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in the City, City Clerk, and any other individuals who may from time to time be appointed by resolution of the City Commission, are hereby designated as the authorized City Officials to issue municipal civil infraction citations as provided by the Municipal Civil Infractions Ordinance (Chapter 35) adopted by the City.

Section 16. Authority to Commence Legal Action.

The Zoning Administrator, Police Department, members of any other law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in the City, City Clerk, and any other individuals who may from time to time be appointed by resolution of the City Commission, are hereby designated as the authorized City Officials to issue municipal civil infraction citations as provided by the Municipal Civil Infractions Ordinance adopted by the City.

Section 17. Remedies not Exclusive.

The remedies listed in this Ordinance are not exclusive of any other remedies available under any applicable federal, state, or local law, and it is within the discretion of the City to seek cumulative remedies.

Section 18. Severability.

Sections of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be severable and should any section, paragraph or provision thereof be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holdings shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any other part thereof, other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid. If any court shall declare invalid the application of any provision of this Ordinance to a particular parcel, lot use, building or structure, such ruling shall not affect the application of said provision to any other parcel, lot use, building or structure not specifically included in said ruling.

Section 19. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall be effective seven days after publication in the newspaper of local circulation.

Section 20. Administrative Liability.

No officer, agent, employee, or member of the Planning Commission, City Commission, or Zoning Board of Appeals shall be held personally liable for any damage that may accrue to any person as a result of any act, decision, or other consequence or occurrence arising out of the discharge of his duties and responsibilities pursuant to this Ordinance.

INTRODUCED by the City Commission of the City of Fennville on the 21st day of July, 2024.
ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Fennville on the 4th day August, 2025.

RECORD OF VOTE:
YES: SLITER, MACHAN, JAMROS, LANGSTON, C.LOPEZ
NO:
ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED

Public Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on August 21, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael Postmus and Sarah Postmus, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

Date of Mortgage: September 29, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 5, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $109,542.44

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Manlius, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Beginning on the North line of Government Lot 2, Section 15, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, 746.00 feet West of the Northeast corner thereof, thence South 40 degrees East 142.08 feet; thence West about 242 feet to Kalamazoo River; thence Northwesterly along the river to the North line of said Government 2; thence East 200 feet to beginning

Common street address (if any): 5320 131st Ave, Hamilton, MI 49419-9691

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: July 24, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1567183

(07-24)(08-14)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Kerisa F. DeSimone, unmarried and Shawn T. Wabeke, unmarried

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Ruoff Mortgage Company, Inc.

Date of Mortgage: November 10, 2023

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 28, 2023

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $249,237.72

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29, Town 3 North, Range 11 West, Wayland Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Beginning at the Northwest corner of Section 29; thence proceeding on the North line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29, North 89 degrees 39 minutes 01 seconds East 258.84 feet; thence on a line parallel with the West line of the Northwest 1/4 Section 29, South 00 degrees 15 minutes 43 seconds East 262.19 feet; thence North 89 degrees 43 minutes 42 seconds West 258.85 feet to the West line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29; thence North 00 degrees 15 minutes 43 seconds West 259.38 feet to the point of beginning.

Together With and Subject To a 12 foot wide potable water well and supply easement area over, under and across the following described land: Beginning at a point on the West line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29, Town 3 North, Range 11 West, being South 00 degrees 15 minutes 43 seconds East 255.38 feet from the Northwest corner of Section 29; thence proceeding South 89 degrees 43 minutes 42 seconds East 131.28 feet; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 18 seconds West 12.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 43 minutes 42 seconds West 131.17 feet to the West line of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29; thence North 00 degrees 15 minutes 43 seconds West 12.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 2797 10th St, Shelbyville, MI 49344-9519

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: July 31, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1567860

(07-31)(08-21)

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Andy Ai, a married man, sole owner, ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Consumers Credit Union, ("Mortgagee"), dated October 30, 2020, and recorded on November 4, 2020, in Liber 4533, on Page 545, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of One Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventeen Dollars and 41/100 Dollars ($152,317.41) plus accrued interest at 2.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, September 18, 2025. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, County of Allegan, State of Michigan and are described as: The South 208.75 feet of the West 208.75 feet of the Southeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 14, Town 2 North, Range 15 West. Commonly: 5159 118th Ave Fennville, MI 49408— Tax Id #04-014-014-00 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: July 31, 2025 Consumers Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340

(07-31)(08-28)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Casey Lynn Hill Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: August 1, 2023 Recorded on August 9, 2023, Liber 4877, on Page 378, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Huntington National Bank Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Three Hundred Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Three and 62/100 Dollars ($317,153.62) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 4, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, Clyde Township, Allegan County, Michigan, being described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, thence South 89 degrees 41 minutes 44 seconds West 129.04 feet along the South line of said Section 33; thence South 02 degrees 01 minutes 26 seconds East 384.70 feet along the East line of said Section 4 to the point of beginning; thence continuing South 02 degrees 01 minutes 26 seconds East 275.00 feet along said East lines; thence South 89 degrees 41 minutes 44 seconds West 363.00 feet; thence North 02 degrees 01 minutes 26 seconds West 275.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 41 minutes 44 seconds East 363.00 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 2380 54th St, Fennville, MI 49408 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The Huntington National Bank Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1568350

(07-31)(08-21)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Diana Terpstra, Married Woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC

Date of Mortgage: October 24, 2016

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 28, 2016

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $125,033.51

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The West 175 feet of the East 510.73 feet of that part of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 13 West, lying South of the Pere Marquette Railroad and North of the Highway (118th Ave).

Common street address (if any): 3267 118th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010-9211

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: August 7, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1568830

(08-07)(08-28)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

JUDICIAL DISTRICT

48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY PROBATE

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION

CASE #25-70752

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010

Court telephone no. (269) 673-0300

Plaintiff name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).

Allegan Community Federal Credit Union

c/o David, Wierenga & Lauka, PC

99 Monroe Avenue, NW, Suite 1210

Grand Rapids, MI 49503 / (616) 454-3883

Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.

Jacob B. Greendyk (P85544)

DAVID, WIERENGA & LAUKA, PC

99 Monroe Ave., N.W., Suite 1210

Grand Rapids, M1 49503 / (616)454-3883

v

Defendant name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).

Scott Zoll, Annie Zoll, Mamie Wendt Short, Robert K. Zoll, and Mildred L. White, individuals, and any unknown heirs/devisees, successors, and assigns; and all unknown persons having an interest in the subject property; and all occupants, jointly and severally

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued in this court by the plaintiff to quiet title to property located in the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, legally described on attached Exhibit A . You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 28 days after Notice first appears in Newspaper . If you fail to do s0, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in Allegan County News for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

Date: 7/18/25

Matthew Antkoviak P-59449

EXHIBIT A

That part of Lot 3, Lowes Divisional Map, in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 27, T2N, R13W, Allegan City, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the intersection of the West line of Airway Drive and the South line of Ridge Court; thence N89°11°00""W 166.56 feet along the South line of said Ridge Court to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing N89°11'00"W 278.97 feet along said South line to the Southwest corner of Ridge Court; thence S00°49°00""W 47.85 feet along the West line of Ridge Court extended Southerly to the North line of Lot 4, Lowes Divisional Map; thence N89°17°40"E 279.15 feet along said North line to the West line of the East 7 acres of Lot 4 of Lowes Divisional Map; thence N00°41'10"E 40.44 feet along the Northerly extension of said West line of the East 7 acres to the Point of Beginning.

8-7 8-21

NOTICE OF ACTION AS TO DEFENDANT Any and All Unknown Herirs, Devisees and Assignees of Mary Grady Raymond PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there is presently pending in the 48th Circuit Court for the County of Allegan, State of MI, located at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010, an action between Plaintiff, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, and Defendant, Any and All Unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assignees of Suretta Lacy, Any and All Unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assignees of Joyce Bradford Raymond, Any and All Unknown Herirs, Devisees and Assignees of Mary Grady Raymond, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Victoria C. Lacy and Carolyn Lacy; Case No. 25-70627-CH, involving an action for Judicial Foreclosure. You are being sued by Plaintiff in this Court seeking Judicial Foreclosure. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the address above on or before twenty-eight (28) days after the date of the third publication. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Plaintiff's Complaint filed in this case. You may contact and serve a copy of any answer on Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C., Attn: Ronald Glaser, 23938 Research Drive, Suite 300, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

1568612

(08-07)(08-21)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Victoria Harrington

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: May 13, 2022

Date of Mortgage Recording: May 20, 2022

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $132,917.40

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Hopkins, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 2 and 3 of Satterlee's Addition to the Village of Hopkins, according to the recorded plat thereof, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 411 Selby St, Hopkins, MI 49328-9556

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: August 7, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1568744

(08-07)(08-28)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on SEPTEMBER 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Travis R. Berens, a single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 23, 2011 and recorded October 28, 2011 in Liber 3558, Page 369 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Nine and 8/100 Dollars ($96,179.08).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on SEPTEMBER 4, 2025.

Said premises are located in the Township of Heath, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 35, Town 3 North, Range 14 West, described as: Beginning at a point on the East line of Section 35, distant South 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds East 767.80 feet from the Northeast corner of Section 35 and proceeding thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds East 330.00 feet along the East line of Section 35; thence South 89 degrees 13 minutes 34 seconds West 660.00 feet parallel with the South line of the North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 35; thence North 00 degrees 14 minutes 03 seconds West 330.00 feet; thence 89 degrees 13 minutes 34 seconds East 660.00 feet to the place of beginning.

2568 38th Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: August 7, 2025

File No. 25-009556

Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(08-07)(08-28)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Future Advance Mortgage made by E-Spin LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, 3381 Blue Start Highway, Saugatuck, Michigan. 49453, to Mark H. Zietlow & Associates, PLC ("Mortgagee"), a Michigan professional limited liability company, 388 Garden Avenue, Suite 140, Holland, Michigan 49424, dated January 4, 2024, and recorded January 4, 2024, as Document # 2024000150, OPR LIBER 4913, PAGE 85, in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Allegan and State of Michigan (the "Mortgage"), and in the conditions of a certain First Amendment of Future Advance Mortgage dated June 26, 2024, and recorded June 26, 2024, as Document # 2024009425, OPR LIBER 4953 PAGE 335, in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Allegan and State of Michigan (the "First Amendment"). There is claimed to be due on the date of this notice, for principal and interest the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Six and 75/100 Dollars ($237,826.75) on the Mortgage and no proceedings having been instituted to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, where by the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;

Now Therefore, Notice is Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises therein described, at a public auction sale, to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check, at the Main Entrance, which is the northwest door, of the Allegan County Courthouse, 113 Chestnut Street, in the City of Allegan and County of Allegan, Michigan, that being the place of holding Circuit Court in and for said County, on September 4. 2025, at promptly 9:00 o'clock in the morning of said day; which said mortgage premises are described as follows, to-wit:

Land situated in the Township of Saugatuck, County of Allegan, Michigan, described as: The South 294 feet of the North 784 feet of the North 5/8 of the West 1 /2 of the Northwest 1 /4 of Section 10, Town 3 North, Range 16 West, Township of Saugatuck, Allegan County, Michigan, lying East of State Trunk Line U.S. Highway 31 (now Blue Star Highway).

Commonly known as 3381 Blue Start Highway, Saugatuck, Michigan. 49453

Parcel No. 03-20-010-015-00

Said premises will be sold to pay the amount as aforesaid then due on said Mortgage and First Amendment, together with legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale. The amount due on said Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the last day to redeem the Sheriffs Deed will be March 4, 2026, however, if an Affidavit of Abandonment is filed with the Register of Deeds, the last day to redeem will be October 4, 2025, or until the time to provide the notice was required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later.

If said property is in fact sold at the above-described foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the above listed Mortgagor will be responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to Mortgagee for damaging the property during the redemption period.

ATTENTION PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing Mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: July 30, 2025

Mark H. Zietlow & Associates, PLC

Mortgagee.

8-7 8-28

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, September 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Lucy Lynn Kosiba, An Unmarried Woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Homecomings Financial Network, Inc., its successors and assigns , Mortgagee, dated August 14, 2003, and recorded on September 2, 2003, in Liber 2543, Page 63, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2018-1 by an Assignment of Mortgage dated September 15, 2021 and recorded September 20, 2021 in Liber 4672, Page 623, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Three and 84/100 ($73,523.84) including interest at the rate of 4.00000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Dorr, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: The South 230 feet of the West 379 feet of the North 620 feet of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 25, Town 4 North, Range 12 West (89), Township of Dorr, County of Allegan, State of Michigan. Commonly known as: 3929 14TH ST, DORR, MI 49323 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: August 7, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2018-1 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00496-1

(08-07)(08-28)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 04, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Randall Overweg and Dee Ann Overweg, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: August 21, 2023 Recorded on September 5, 2023, in Document No. 2023012709, Liber 4883, on Page 318, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Union Home Mortgage Corp. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-One and 44/100 Dollars ($288,861.44) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Part of the East half of the Southwest 1/4 Section 16, Town 3 North, Range 14 West, Heath Township, Allegan County, Michigan described as beginning at the South 1/4 corner of Section 16 and proceeding thence along the South line of Section 16 due West 233.52 feet; thence along the centerline of an existing road North 05 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds West 275.10 feet; thence South 89 degrees 39 minutes 42 seconds East 264.26 feet; thence along the North and South 1/4 line South 00 degrees 56 minutes 13 seconds West 272.31 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 4399 130th Ave, Hamilton, MI 49419 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Union Home Mortgage Corp. Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1568988

(08-07)(08-28)

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF ROWAN

IN THE GENERAL COUNTY OF JUSTICE

DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

FILE NO. 25 CvS 577

ROWAN INVESTMENT COMPANY, INC., Plaintiff

vs. CHRISTOPHER BAKER, Defendant

TO: CHRISTOPHER BAKER

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: for an Order requiring the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles to issue titles to the Plaintiff.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than the 6 day th of October, 2025. Upon your failure to do so, Plaintiff, Rowan Investment Company, Inc., will apply the Court for the relief herein sought.

This the 8 day of August, 2025. th

David Y. Bingham

Attorney for Plaintiff

113 West Council Street

Salisbury, NC 28144

(704) 638-0100

8-14 8-28

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 25-65711-DE and

JUDGE HON. MICHAEL L. BUCK

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of CARROL LEE LENFIELD

Date of Birth:*12-25-1942

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, CARROL LEE LENFIELD , died 6-4-2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to TERRY LENFIELD and CECIL LENFIELD, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and

(Continued on Page B7)

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
8-11-2025
Terry D. Lenfield Jr
1013 Barton St
Otsego, MI 49078
269-692-3616
Cecil J. Lenfield
11496 Sprinkle Rd
Vicksburg, MI 49097
269-744-6507

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Under the power of sale contained herein in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or a cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 18th, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE – Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joseph J. Laroy Married Man and Pricilla Laroy, His Wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), as nominee for Decision One Mortgage Company, LLC, dated September 27, 2004, and recorded September 30, 2004 in Liber 2738, Page 108, in Allegan County records, Michigan, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on November 12, 2008 in Liber 3275, Page 667, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on April 10, 2012 in Liber 3607, Page 376, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on February 24, 2014 in Liber 3816, Page 688, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, National Association, as Trustee of the FW Series I Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on May 12, 2020 in Liber 4461, Page 226, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Seventy-Six and 25/100 dollars ($117,076.25). Said premises are situated in the Township of Otsego, County of Allegan, and State of Michigan, and particularly described as: Lot 5, Oak View Farm, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 15 of Plats, Page 66, Allegan County Records. Property Address: 282 Zak Road, Plainwell, MI 49080 Parcel No.: 17-660-005-00 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: August 14th, 2025 For more information, please call: (440) 572-1511 Sottile and Barile PLLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 394 Wards Corner Boulevard, Suite 180 Loveland, OH 45140 File MF2410006 - Laroy, Joseph J.
(08-14)(09-04)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 25-65707 DE
Estate of Karen Sue Christensen, Deceased
Date of Birth: 06/01/1945
NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Karen Sue Christensen, died on December 24, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lisa Plotts, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Date: August 8, 2025
David F. Kiel (P43048)
Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C.
314 Trowbridge Street, P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010-0239
(269) 673-2136
Lisa Plotts, Personal Representative
1019-107th Avenue
Plainwell, MI 49080

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)
whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: SYDNEY LYNN STOREY has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 AT 11:30 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: SYDNEY LYNN STOREY to SYDNEY LYNN VELETANLIC

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
In the matter of KATHLEEN ROSE GARRETT
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:* MICHAEL WILSON, BRIANNA ANDERSON, AND TIMOTHY ANDERSON
whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE:*
Lester Fisher intends to request informal appointment as personal representative of the estate of Earnest Sanford. This notice is being served upon each person whose right to an appointment is prior or equal to my own. The court will not act upon my application until 14 days after the date this notice is publihed. The action you may take includes: 1. Upon paying a filing fee, filing a petition for formal proceedings to appoint a personal representative; 2. Upon paying a filing fee, filing an application for informal appointment of yourself as personal representative provided you have a higher priority to be appointed; or 3. Contacting an attorney for assistance in representing you in any proceeding you wish to file in the court.
Lester Fisher
14285 James St.
Holland, MI 49424
(616) 808-6819

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65769-DE and JUDGE Hon. Jolene A. Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Luis Ochen, Jr. Date of Birth:*05-23-1964
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Luis Ochen, Jr., died 06-28-25.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Marissa Ochea, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
8-6-25
Marissa Ochea
1351 56th St.
Fennville MI 49408
616-312-8507

TATE OF MICHIGAN
48TH CIRCUIT COURT-FAMILY DIVISION
ALLEGAN COUNTY
PUBLICATION OF HEARING
Court Address: 113 Chestnut, Allegan, MI 49010
TO:ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS
241 HUBBARD STREET
ALLEGAN, MI 49010
IN THE MATTER OF: PARKER ALLEN
CASE NO. 25-70268-NA PETITION NO.
A hearing regarding PUTATIVE FATHER HEARING will be conducted by the court on AUGUST 25, 2025 at 9:00 AM in FAMILY COURT HEARING ROOM B before REFEREE MICHAEL DEYOUNG. You have the right to an attorney and the right to a trial by a judge or jury.
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that EVIN WHEELER OR ANY UNKNOWN FATHER personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Termination of your parental rights. 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010, Family Division.
Dated: 8/7/25
Judge Jolene A. Clearwater (P74848)
174848

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, Michigan starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made by Stacey Workman, a single woman, as Mortgagor to United Bank of Michigan, a Michigan banking corporation, dated March 14, 2025, and recorded on April 24, 2025, in Liber 5027, Page 846, Instrument No. 2025006302, recorded in Allegan County Records, Allegan County, Michigan. The balance owing on the Mortgage is $712,724.04 at the time of this Notice. The Mortgage contains a power of sale and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part of the Mortgage. The Mortgagee will apply the sale proceeds to the debt secured by the Mortgage as stated above, plus interest on the amount due at the rate of 6.875% per annum; all legal costs and expenses, including attorney's fees allowed by law; and also any amount paid by the Mortgagee to protect its interest in the property. The property to be sold at foreclosure is all of that real estate situated in the Township of Allegan, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, described as: Unit No. 31, Riverview Estates Condominium, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 2457 on Page 438 and re-recorded in Liber 2492 on Page 682 and amendments thereto (if any), and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 189, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in above Master Deed, and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. APN #01-555-031-00 Commonly known as: 1663 Fairview Dr., Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of sale pursuant to MCLA 600.3240(8), unless deemed abandoned and then pursuant to the time frames provided for in MCL 600.3241a. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. August 4, 2025 UNITED BANK OF MICHIGAN, Mortgagee PLUNKETT COONEY KELLI L. BAKER (P49960) Attorney for Mortgagee 333 Bridge Street NW, Suite 530 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 (616) 752-4624
(08-14)(09-11)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65766-DE and JUDGE Judge Jolene Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Maria Antonio Malfeo Date of Birth:*06/23/1933
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Maria Antonio Malfeo, died 12/16/2020.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Maria A. Frank, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
8/5/2025
Patricia C. Carpenter P67150
3073 W. John Beers Road
Stevensville, MI 49127
(269)469-9557
Maria R. Frank
5505 Hearthside Drive
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(708)804-5611

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)
whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: Luis Ricardo Jimenez-Gutierrez has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 9:30 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: Luis Ricardo Jimenez-Gutierrez to Ricardo Jimenez

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65622-DE and JUDGE
Estate of John Francis Burkhard
Date of birth February 10, 1950
TO ALL CREDITORS:**
The decedent, John Francis Burkhard, born February 10, 1950, died February 23, 2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jeffrey D Burkhard, 15624 W. Clear lake Rd., Buchanan, MI 49107, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut St, Allegan, MI 49010, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, John Francis Burkhard, died February 23, 2025
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jeffrey D Burkhard, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut St, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
April 2, 2025
William E. Westerbeke P65185
4595 Broadmoor Ave., SE, Ste. 236
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
616-965-2060
Jeffrey D Burkhard
15624 W. Clear Lake Rd
Buchanan, MI 49107
(269) 362-2070

CHESHIRE TOWNSHIP
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESHIRE, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Cheshire Township Zoning Board of Appeals has scheduled a public hearing/meeting for September 3, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering the following matters:

1. The application of Richard and Denise Stojak for variance relief from requirements of the Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance associated with a proposed new single family dwelling (28' width by 56' length) and detached garage (22' width by 27' length) on a legal nonconforming/buildable waterfront lot (Duck Lake) commonly known as 160 Peterson Drive, Gobles (parcel no. 0303-200-024-00) in the R-2 Residential District. The existing small cinder block shed is proposed to be removed. This project requires the following variance relief to proceed as proposed:

   • a side yard setback variance of 1.5 feet on the northerly side of the dwelling (8'6" is proposed; 10' is the required minimum).

   • a front yard (street-side) setback variance of 25'2" for the detached garage (24'10" is proposed at the shortest distance from the angled street; 50' is the required minimum).

   • a side yard setback variance of 5' on the northerly side of the proposed garage (5' is proposed; 10' is the required minimum).

The ZBA will consider this variance application pursuant to the variance standards specified in Section 19.8.1 of the Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance, and any other applicable provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. This matter may also involve variances from other requirements in the Zoning Ordinance, as may be determined based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

2. Such other and further matters as may properly come before the Board.

The public hearing/meeting will be held at the Cheshire Township Hall located at 471 41st Street, just north of 104th Avenue in the Township of Cheshire, Allegan County, Michigan. The Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance and Map, and the variance application(s) materials, may be examined by contacting the Township Clerk, and may also be examined at the hearing/meeting.

Written comments regarding the above referenced matters may be submitted to the Township Clerk prior to the hearing/meeting, and may also be submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing/meeting.

Cheshire Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing/meeting to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon reasonable notice to the Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk.

Jodi Pinnell, Clerk
Cheshire Township
1061 37th Street
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 521-3440

CLASSIFIEDS

Sale

Yard Sale Thursday August 14th 9 - 5pm at 490 Sherman St items include riding lawn mower BBQ grill compressor basketball hoop back to school kids clothes games and some furniture.

Help Wanted

Waitstaff part-time, start immediately. Work through first week of October, with opportunity for rehire in April 2026. CHESHIRE HILLS GOLF COURSE. 8-14

Golf Carts

YAMAHA GAS GOLF CART SALE. Year 2003, Model G22, well maintained. Price: Cash $2,200; Credit Card $2,260. Sale Dates: Monday-Friday, August 25-29. Sale Time: 8 am – 2 p.m. Location: Cheshire Hills Golf Course. Info: 269-673-2882. 8-21

Misc.

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Lawsuit

IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY and suffered an infection between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-5727

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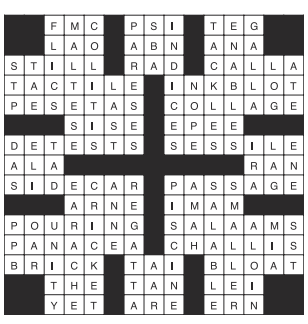

7	8	5	9	1	3	6	2	4
4	6	1	2	7	5	9	8	3
3	2	9	8	4	6	7	1	5
6	1	2	3	8	7	5	4	9
5	7	3	1	9	4	8	6	2
8	9	4	5	6	2	3	7	1
2	5	7	6	3	1	4	9	8
9	3	6	4	2	8	1	5	7
1	4	8	7	5	9	2	3	6

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

RELIGION SECTION

Not long ago I came across an antique set of Frederick Froebel's six educational "gifts and presentations" as they known. With the exception of the soft woolen ball, the other gifts are wooden blocks in various shapes, perhaps much like the ones you and I played with as children. Each gift was presented by placing it on a gridded card table, with instructions for an adult to give some additional guidance, often by asking questions. Soon, the child was left to his or her own devices to find ways to play with the piece. In time, they could play with all six of the pieces.

The whole idea was for a child to learn by playing, and to allow them opportunities to be creative. It worked. Later in his life, America's great architect Frank Lloyd Wright credited his mother with setting him on his life's work as a designer. It was so important to him that he kept his Froebel's Gifts in his home and studio.

Froebel's Gifts, toys of all types, lessons and opportunities to learn-by-doing in the creative and visual arts, as well as religious instruction, are essential if we are going to encourage children and ourselves to experience what St Paul wrote were the immeasurable riches that God wants to share with us. Everything that widens our eyes and expands our horizons are God's good and gracious gifts to us.

In turn, we respond with gratitude and by taking action. We become the designers and creators to enhance God's world. We use the early childhood skills to come up with interesting and sometimes radical solutions to problems and challenges. Or, we might recall something we read, even a long time ago, and see practical places to apply it.

If it comes from God, then it is all good. We parlay not only what we read or heard, but all of our experiences in life so that we can continue moving forward in doing God's will. And sometimes, it leads us into places we never thought we would go. For example, in junior high school I took two summer school classes - typing and creative writing.

Father was not impressed. Girls, he said, needed to know how to type because they might be a secretary, and I'd never make any money writing. Father was wrong on both counts. It is a reminder that we must always listen to our heart and hear what God is calling us to do.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m.,
Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
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Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
410 E. Orleans St.
Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UP Uni Pac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157

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